

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Well schooled...
Lorna Bourke looks at the high cost of private education.

Well shot...
How to choose the right shoes for your children.

What prospects?
Frances Williams analyses the August unemployment figures.

Internal combustion:
Third and final part of the competition to win a Ford Sierra XR4i.

External combustion:
Are smokers a drag? A look at Britons' attitudes to the weed.

Holy smoke:
The American evangelists out to convert you.

Britain calls for release of officers

Britain has called for the release of the six white Zimbabwe Air Force officers who were immediately rearrested after being cleared of sabotage charges. The Acting High Commissioner of Zimbabwe in London was called to the Foreign Office yesterday and told that the British Government and people were "very concerned and disturbed".

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NHS pressure

A new government circular gives health authorities the clearest indication yet that they are expected to privatise more of their domestic, catering and laundry services.

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Lloyd's warning

Sir Peter Green, chairman of Lloyd's, the London insurance market, has given a warning that insurance rates are too low, despite record profits of £264m.

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PIE condemned

The Home Secretary condemned the views of the Pardonne Information Exchange, which would not say more because of "a possibility of prosecution against individual members".

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Stage museum

Lord Gowrie, Minister for the Arts, has given the go-ahead for a theatre museum in London less than two months after he postponed the project.

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College cuts

Three of the six or so colleges threatened with closure or merger under cuts recommended by government advisers have been named.

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Falklands vote

A UN committee endorsed a resolution calling on London and Buenos Aires to resume negotiations over the sovereignty of the Falklands.

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Jobs threat

The new chairman of British Shipbuilders, Mr Graham Day, has announced that further job losses and yard closures may be needed.

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Poland 'normal'

The Polish press yesterday tried to portray life in the country as normal despite Wednesday's pro-Solidarity demonstrations and clashes in Warsaw, Gdansk and other cities.

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£43m issue

Tate & Lyle, the sugar group, is planning to raise £43m through a rights issue to its shareholders.

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Roland Rat goes

TV-am is to drop its popular puppet character Roland Rat after the school holidays and replace him with Popeye cartoons.

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Aoki leads

Izao Aoki (Japan) has a first round of 65 in the European Open at Sunningdale. Craig Francis, a millionaire amateur held the lead for five hours.

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Letters: On seizure of documents from Mr J. G. Watson; Zimbabwe arrests, from Mr Humphrey Berkeley; confidential Treasury paper, from Mr D. J. Critchley.
Leading articles: Hanan; Youth Training Scheme.
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Missis Britain; the unions' decline; fighting illiteracy; West Germany; waiting for Pershing. Special Report, pages 16 and 17.
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MiG shot down airliner with 269 on board, says Shultz

US-Soviet crisis over jumbo jet

From Nicholas Ashford in Washington, Richard Hanson in Tokyo and Richard Over in Moscow

Soviet and American leaders were mobilizing for a new crisis today after Washington accused the Soviet Union of shooting down with a missile a South Korean jumbo jet with 269 people on board.

President Andropov was believed to be returning to Moscow from holiday, while in Washington President Reagan instructed Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, to demand an immediate and full account of the incident from the Soviet Union.

The United States and Japan are considering requesting a special session of the United Nations Security Council.

In the space of 12 minutes, Korean Airlines Flight 007 from New York to Seoul via Anchorage plunged from 10,000 metres to disappear from the

radar screens after straying 720 kilometres off course into Soviet airspace over the military island of Sakhalin, between northern Japan and Siberia.

Among the passengers - the majority Koreans, Taiwanese and Japanese - was Mr Lawrence McDonald, head of the US House of Representatives armed services committee. Washington claimed that Soviet MiG jets attacked the aircraft.

After a day of near-silence on the incident, Moscow said last night that an unidentified aircraft twice violated its airspace and that Soviet fighters were scrambled to guide it to the nearest landing point, but that it failed to respond to signals. The statement did not admit to shooting down the aircraft.

Reports from Tokyo, quoting sources in intelligence and the Japanese Defence Agency, said that the MiG pilot was heard saying to his base Sakhalin: "I am



going to fire a missile. The target is the KAL (Korean Air Lines) plane."

In a further exchange Sakhalin said: "Take aim at target." Pilot: "Aim taken." Sakhalin: "Fire." Pilot: " Fired."

According to Kyodo News Agency, this exchange occurred three times, indicating the firing of three missiles.

In Washington, Mr Shultz, his voice quivering with emotion, said "We can see

no excuse whatsoever for this appalling act."

Mr Shultz, in detailed account of the incident monitored by an American base in Japan, said that the Russians had tracked the KAL flight for 2½ hours from their Sakhalin-based; that up to eight Soviet jets in constant touch with their ground control had "reacted" to the airline's presence and that the Russian pilot had visual contact with his target.

Soviet naval vessels and aircraft are

searching the area for signs of the

aircraft, according to Washington and Tokyo. American and Japanese rescue units are also searching.

Mr Richard Burt, the US Assistant Secretary of State, said yesterday that some wreckage and a kerosene slick had been spotted in the crash area, but there was no indication of survivors.

A South Korean airline official said in New York that 240 passengers and 29 crew had been on board the missing airliner. Many of the nationalities were still unknown last night and the official said: "we just cannot tell if there are any British." Reports from Seoul listed 72 Koreans, between 22 and 27 Japanese and 34 Taiwanese.

It was not known why the jet had drifted so far from its flight path, which should have taken it over Japan.

If the death toll in the disaster is 269, it will be the fifth most serious crash in the history of aviation.

Shultz press conference

'We react with revulsion to this attack'

Washington (AP) - The following is the text of Mr George Shultz's briefing yesterday on the disappearance of the South Korean airliner:

At approximately 1600 hours GMT, the aircraft came to the attention of the Soviet radar. It was tracked by the Soviets from that time. The aircraft stayed into Soviet air space over the Kamchatka peninsula and over the Sea of Okhotsk and over the Sakhalin Islands. The Soviets tracked the commercial aircraft for some 2½ hours.

A Soviet pilot recorded visual contact with the aircraft at 1812 hours. The Soviet plane was, we know, in constant contact with its ground control. At 1826 hours the Soviet pilot reported to the Soviet air force that he had seen a missile and the jet had been destroyed.

At 1830 hours the Korean aircraft was reported by radar at 5000 metres. At 1838 hours the Korean plane disappeared from the radar screen. We know that at least eight Soviet fighters reacted at one time or another to the airliner, the pilot who shot the aircraft down reported after the attack that he had in fact fired a missile that had destroyed the target and that he was breaking away.

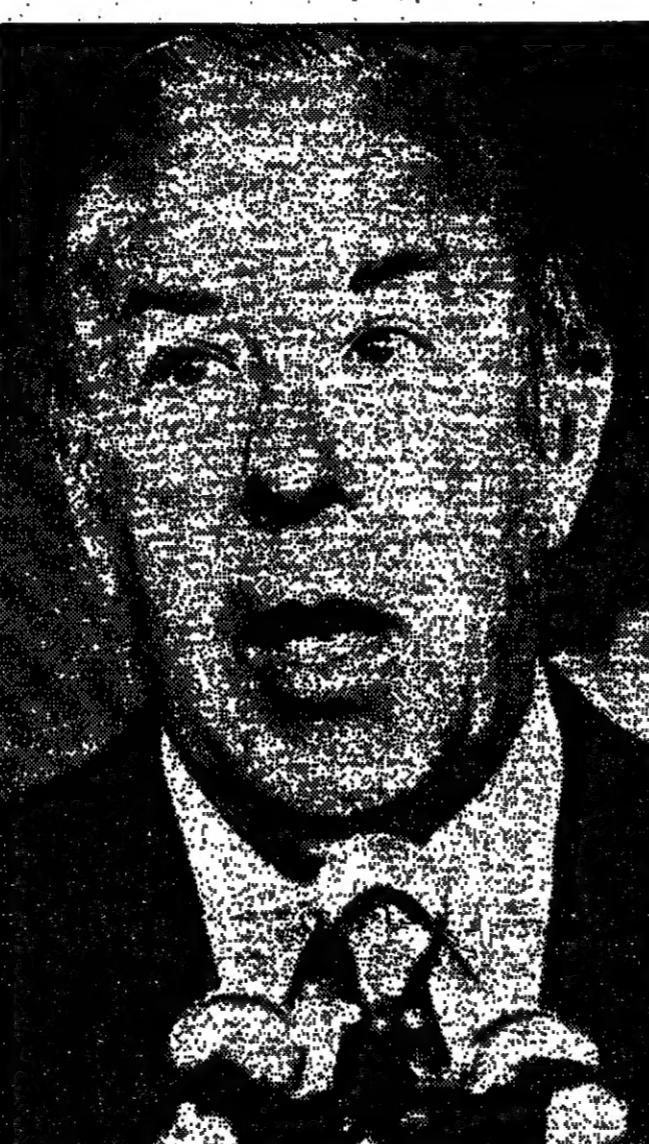
About an hour later, the Soviet controllers ordered a number of search aircraft to conduct search-and-rescue activities in the vicinity of the last position of the Korean airliner as reflected by Soviet tracking.

At No. This information that we have come into our hands after the shooting down of this plane.

Q: Is the United States in touch with Moscow at all on the hot line or in any Presidential contact in this case?

A: No. This information that we have come into our hands after the shooting down of this plane.

Q: Have you spoken to the



Mr Shultz: "We can see no excuse whatsoever."

President about this matter and what did he say?

A: I haven't spoken to the President as yet.

Q: Mr Secretary, can you tell us, was there any warning given by the Soviets?

A: I should say the President was fully informed, and I've talked to the West Coast, and the President

Shocked Reagan demands full story

From Our Correspondent Washington

President Reagan, described as "very concerned and deeply disturbed" about the loss of life on board the Korean jet, has directed Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, to demand an immediate and full account of the incident from the Soviet Union.

A special White House statement said: "There are no circumstances that can justify the unprecedented attack on an unarmed civilian aircraft." The Soviet Union owes an explanation to the world about how and why this tragedy has occurred.

The terse comment was made after President Reagan, who is on holiday at his ranch near Santa Barbara in California, had spoken by telephone with Mr Shultz in Washington.

Former Secretary of State, Dr Henry Kissinger, said it was an "outrageous, unforgivable act" that these planes would follow a commercial aircraft, for two hours and then just shoot it down callously.

● LONDON: The Foreign Office last night described the disaster as "deeply disturbing and, on the face of it, wholly inexplicable" (Henry Stanhope writes). Diplomats were in close contact with Seoul and New York, trying to check whether any British passengers had been on board.

● OTTAWA: the Canadian Government is calling on the Soviet Embassy here to demand an explanation for the "unprovoked attack" on the jet External Relations Minister Mr Jean-Luc Pepin said (AP report).

At least two and possibly 10 Canadian residents were on board the aircraft.

Continued on back page, col 5

Tass says we do not know aircraft's fate

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

President Andropov was believed to be cutting short a brief holiday yesterday to deal with a potential crisis in Soviet-American relations after the disappearance of a South Korean airliner near the island of Sakhalin, off the Soviet far-east coast.

Soviet officials maintained that Moscow had no knowledge of the aircraft's fate and that it had left Soviet air space.

Tass news agency said in a brief statement that an unidentified aircraft had entered Soviet air space over the Kamchatka peninsula from the direction of the Pacific and had again "violated Soviet air space" a second time over Sakhalin.

Tass said it did not have navigation lights, did not respond to queries and did not enter into contact with "the dispersed service", a reference to Soviet interceptors.

The report said "fighters of the anti-aircraft defence" had been sent to intercept the "intruder" and had tried to give it assistance by directing it to the nearest board.

The aircraft had "not reacted to the signals and warnings from the Soviet fighters" and had then continued its flight in the direction of the Sea of Japan.

The Kremlin remained silent yesterday on the fate of the Jumbo jet, but Asian diplomats in Moscow said Soviet denials of intercepting it did not convince.

There was no immediate reaction to charges by Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, that the aircraft had been shot down by a Soviet fighter.

Sources said that if Mr Shultz's information, based on interception of Soviet military conver-

afternoon and was told that the Government had no knowledge of the missing aircraft. Officials said it had not landed on Soviet territory "and is therefore not located on Soviet territory".

Asian diplomats said they found this formula unconvincing since it left open the possibility that the aircraft had exploded in mid-air or crashed into the sea.

Sources pointed out that when a South Korean airliner was forced down by MiG fighters in 1978 the Russians initially denied all knowledge of it.

In yesterday's incident, the aircraft bound for Tokyo, disappeared from radar screens as it approached northern Japan. The Japanese Air Force later said it believed an aircraft had been intercepted, forced or shot down near Sakhalin.

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educational publisher reports that there is a simple technique for acquiring a swift mastery of good English. It can double your powers of self-expression.

Speaking at the same time in South Wales, Mr Kinnock concentrated on attacking the Conservatives' "singing sermons" about borrowing, the need for public investment, and the preoccupation "massage" of the economy which had been reversed since Mrs Margaret Thatcher was returned to office on June 9.

But in his summary of Labour policy he said the mechanism for pulling together the resources and abilities of Britain exists in Labour's plans for the development of British industry and the operation of the national economic assessment.

The question was how Labour was going to reconcile the continuing role of collective bargaining with the need to

restrain inflation. "It is essential that we find the answer", Mr Shultz said.

"For it is indeed the missing component in what is otherwise a coherent policy for economic expansion. But I have to tell you in all candour that, without a firm agreement on incomes, we shall not be able to achieve our goals of rapid economic expansion and a rapid reduction in unemployment", he said.

Speaking at the same time in Labour's election campaign was Mr Kinnock, the favourite for the leadership, in a considered statement on economic policy delivered in his Iswyn constituency. Mr Kinnock did not mention pay controls once.

Mr Shultz said in Southampton that the missing component in Labour

Cuts in university places fall hardest on women and working class

By Lucy Hodge, Education Correspondent

Higher A level grades were demanded by young people applying to university last year than ever before. Women were particularly badly affected by the squeeze on higher education places, and fewer working class candidates got to university.

The increasing difficulty which students have in getting into university, shown in figures published yesterday by the Universities Central Council on Admissions (UCCA), is a direct result of government spending cuts and the reduction in student numbers at a time when the 18-year-old age group is at its biggest.

The number of British students accepted last year was down by 3 per cent from 74,514 to 72,634 compared with 1981, and the number of overseas students accepted was down by 12 per cent from 5,827 to 3,118. Malaysians, in particular, were reluctant to pay the new "full-cost fees" for overseas students. The number

of university applicants fell from 3,690 to 2,168 from the previous year.

Only 20.9 per cent of all those applying to university were in manual class compared with 21.1 per cent from the professional classes.

UCCA says: "Although, in total, a higher percentage of candidates from the higher social classes were accepted, this difference is due to their better performance at A-level".

Women were affected worse last year, the report says. Fewer were admitted to university than the previous year, fewer were recruited. In the clearing house system, and many fewer who passed A levels even applied through the clearing house.

No reason is given for that, but it is believed that women are being affected more than men because they tend to study arts subjects, which have suffered more than the sciences from the

£11,000 equality grant

From Arthur Ossman, Birmingham

The Women's Staff Group at Aston University, Birmingham, has been awarded an £11,000 grant by the Equal Opportunities Commission directed at improving the female staff position and that of female students at the university.

It is the largest single grant in the commission's present rounds of awards. The grant will finance a one-year full-time appointment to coordinate what is called "a positive action programme". Interviews for the post will be held shortly. Work will start on the programme in October.

It is believed to be the first such full-time appointment at a British university although some part-

New house search for missing wife

By Peter Wilson-Smith

The police hunting Mrs Diane Jones, aged 33, the missing wife of Dr Robert Jones, yesterday began another search of their £25,000 home. A video camera, electronic sensing equipment, a power drill, and a crowbar were taken into the white-painted, 400-year-old beamed furnace.

Later loud banging noises could be heard from behind closed curtains inside the house, Less Farm, Coggeshall, Essex.

After two hours the police left the house, carrying cases and toolboxes. The front door was locked by an estate agent who is advertising the house for sale.

Earlier the police had searched a wood known as the Dillery less than half a mile from the house. The wood, on land owned by the Essex Police Committee chairman, Mr Bill Dixon-Smith, contains a flooded sunpit known as "Dead Man's Pond" because two village people have drowned themselves in it.

Dr Jones, aged 43, who is on a month-long foreign holiday, is expected to leave Toronto today to fly to Sydney.

Originally, Dr Jones had told the police that he planned to visit Honolulu, but a close friend said yesterday that he had changed his travel plans and intended to fly direct to Australia.

Waiter dies in £1m fire

A man died, five others, including three firemen, were injured, and about £1m worth of damage was caused when fire destroyed a shopping arcade and some flats and badly damaged an hotel at Ulverstone, North Devon.

The fire broke out early yesterday and Mr Thomas Murphy, a waiter, died while trying to help in the evacuation of about 200 people. More than 100 firemen fought the blaze for six hours and two injured firemen were kept in hospital.

Trawlers freed

Four Danish trawlers arrested on Wednesday night while fishing for mackerel 140 miles east of Aberdeen were allowed to resume fishing yesterday after the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland decided that under EEC regulations they had not been acting illegally.

Police inquiry

The police are investigating allegations against five suspended detectives of the London Transport division of British Transport Police, a divisional spokesman said yesterday. He would give no details of the allegations.

Boathouse blaze

Damage estimated at £500,000 was caused by a fire at the 99 Club's boathouse in Cambridge on Wednesday night. At least 60 boats are believed to have been destroyed and the boathouse was severely damaged.

Burglary charge

Michael John Stutfield, aged 32, of Gilstead, Bingley, West Yorkshire, was accused of stealing jewellery worth £18 when he appeared yesterday before magistrates at Bingley. He was remanded on bail for one week.

Firemen hurt

Three firemen were slightly injured yesterday when their engine crashed on the way to a grain silo fire in Berwickshire.



Angela Rippon, the television personality, leaving hospital in Plymouth yesterday with both wrists in plaster but determined to be back on a horse in six weeks' time. She broke both wrists when her horse fell during trials in Devon on Sunday.

Banks fight £20m losses

New card to cut cheque fraud

By Peter Wilson-Smith

The card used by the United Bank of Kuwait.

The signature strip and replace with a new one.

The banks are still studying the possibility of sealing signatures onto the cards by covering them with plastic or engraving them on the cards with laser technology. However, banking sources said it was less likely that that would be introduced immediately.

The new card is likely to have sophisticated watermark-style printing like that on bank notes, which would make it much more difficult for criminals to remove.

Now, however, practitioners are studying how to make the card more secure, and are about 12 hours from

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London concern at Harare trial

Foreign Office summons Zimbabwe envoy over Air Force arrests

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Muyaradzi Samuel Kajee, Zimbabwe's acting High Commissioner in London, was summoned to the Foreign Office last night amid growing international concern over the fate of six Zimbabwe Air Force officers re-detained on Wednesday within minutes of their acquittal by a Harare court on sabotage charges.

Meanwhile, Mr Martin Evans, Britain's High Commissioner to Zimbabwe, was delivering a message from Mrs Margaret Thatcher to Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, appealing for clarification of his government's action.

Mrs Thatcher and her ministers are under pressure from their backbenchers to express Britain's disapproval in the strongest possible terms, if necessary by cutting aid to the Zimbabwe, which is expected to total nearly £19m this year.

But Whitehall's first concern is to find out whether the men are likely to remain in jail indefinitely or whether the re-arrests were an instant reaction which will soon be corrected.

The acting High Commissioner was seen at the Foreign Office by Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State, who expressed Britain's strong feelings on the matter. The Government was "very disturbed", Mr Rifkind said on Radio 4's *World At One*.

Four officers with dual British-Zimbabwean nationality would be welcome in Britain if they were allowed to leave Harare and the Government was also ready to help the other two with Zimbabwean nationality, he said.

Mr Mugabe is due to visit the US next week and could find the White House taking a similar line on human rights. The US embassy in London last night estimated aid to Zimbabwe over the 1981-82 period at \$225m (£150m). It is not known whether he will stop in London for talks on the way.

One way Britain could make its feelings known would be to cut the military training team in Zimbabwe, which is already being reduced from 100 to between 50

Asked by an MP why Mr

New-look force to be reckoned with

Army may make or break Lebanon

From Robert Fisk
Beirut

The three Lebanese Army intelligence officers wanted to show their self-confidence: "We can control Beirut and we can go into the Chouf mountains," the youngest said. "There will be no problem."

But if there was a problem, if regular troops could not control the Druze towns and villages where the Israelis leave, would that not be the end of the Lebanese Army?

The senior of the three men stared out of the windows of the Defence Ministry office at the distant city of Beirut below. "It will be the end of the Government," he said firmly. "Not the Army."

He had clearly been thinking along these lines before and there are few Americans diplomats in Beirut who would now disagree. Should President Gemayel's government collapse, the Army just could turn out to be the one institution capable of saving Lebanon from anarchy.

No one talks publicly about the possibility of a military government here but the Army - in just 11 months - has turned out to be the largest, best equipped and best-trained Lebanese armed force in the country.

With a current strength of 32,000 men, the Army can, in theory, overwhelm any of the

Worried senators add to pressure on Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

50 days if they face hostilities or the threat of hostilities.

In spite of the death earlier this week of two Marines, Mr Percy

Tight security for Arafat in Geneva

Aid extensive security measures, with his hotel ringed by armed police, Mr Yasir Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, arrived in Geneva yesterday from Tunis to address the United Nations International Conference on the Question of Palestine (Alan McGregor writes).

The conference was urged yesterday by Mr Paul McCloskey, a former US Congressman, to recognize all UN resolutions on the Palestine problem.

said he was confident Congress would support the continued presence of the 1,200-man Marine contingent in Beirut where it forms part of the American peace-keeping force. "If we pull out, it might just turn into utter turmoil."

Senator Robert Byrd (Democrat, West Virginia), the Senate minority leader, also called on President Reagan to involve Congress "in the difficult and crucial decision that must be made. American forces are clearly involved in hostilities within the meaning of the War Powers Act."

Others who have called for Congressional action under the Act include Senator John Glenn (Democrat, Ohio) and Senator Charles Mathias (Republican, Maryland).

Yesterday, Representative Samuel Stratton (Democrat, New

Right-winger urges Zia to speed power transfer

From Hassan Akbari, Islamabad

clung for a total of 20 minutes.

The third reading debate will start next Wednesday and Mr Chris Hennis, Minister of Community Development, who has been piloting the measure through Parliament, will reply next Friday before the House prorogues.

South Africa's white electorate will vote in a referendum on November 2 on whether it approves the Bill as passed by Parliament. But no details have yet been given by the Government about how and when it plans to test Coloured and Indian voters.

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not be put during the marathon debate on the committee stage.

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S Africa cuts reform debate

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

the reform plan as a sell out of white self-determination and just, and was necessary because of the incessant expansion of road networks. "They should improve the roads, not put up the fines", grumbled one motorist.

A drive along some of Moscow's busiest roads showed that most motorists were still changing lanes recklessly, with bemused "out of towners" from the countryside the worst offenders.

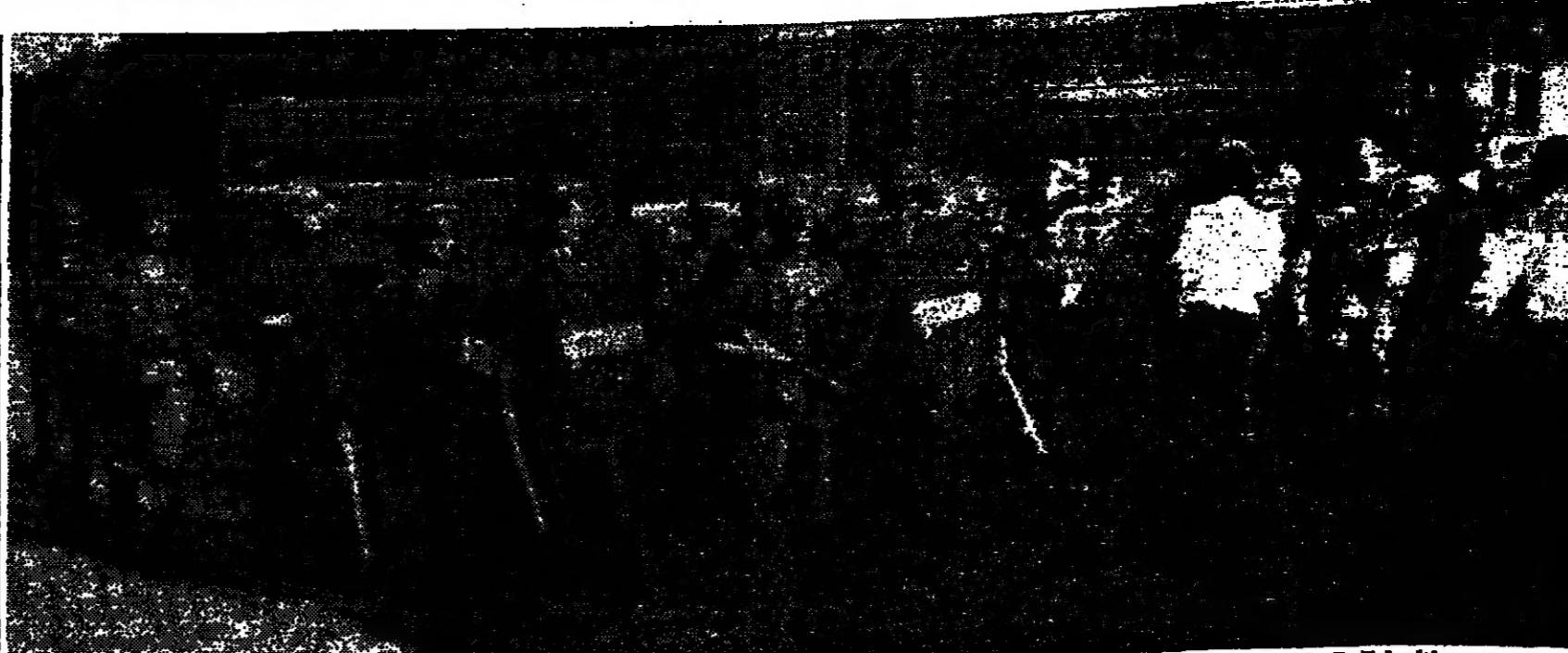
Russians often complain that they are stopped for trivial or non-existent offences by policemen who let them off for a small bribe.

The authorities have tried to come to grips with the problem by purging the police force and imposing higher standards. The new head of the traffic police (GAI), Mr Viktor Piskaryov, warned motorists in a television appearance to obey traffic rules.

Piskaryov said yesterday that the new law was stern, humane and just, and was necessary because of the incessant expansion of road networks. "They should improve the roads, not put up the fines", grumbled one motorist.

The guillotine came down firmly late on Wednesday night on further debate in the committee stage of the measure under which three houses of parliament will be elected for whites, mixed race Coloureds and Indians, but it ensures white political control.

The debate on clause 34 of the bill when time for the Government's ultra-right Cosatu, which opposes



Back on the streets: Riot police in Wroclaw facing demonstrators in one of the pro-Solidarity protests that erupted in Polish cities

Polish press tries to play down Solidarity riots

From Roger Boyes
Warsaw

Some yards away from the scene of Wednesday's clashes between Solidarity supporters and the batons of the militia, the Polish authorities last night held an anti-war rally in the form of a light-and-sound show in Warsaw's Castle Square.

Nearby police have removed a floral cross - the focus of Solidarity demonstrations - from the shelter of St Anna's Church and a militiaman stands guard. A column of militia vehicles parked near some student hostels houses more police.

A spokesman for the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin said yesterday: "We are investigating what steps we can take on behalf of the Irish passport holders."

The Zimbabwe delegation visit is officially confirmed yesterday by the Dublin Government. Mr Mugabe is due to meet Dr Garret Fitzgerald, the Prime Minister and Mr Peter Barry, the Foreign Minister, during the two-day visit.

Whites' future, page 8
Leading article and letter, page 9

Open house

Johannesburg (AFP) - The town council of the white residential Johannesburg suburb of Randburg has agreed to open its swimming pools, public toilets, transport, creches and nursery schools to all races.

Asked by an MP why Mr

men smoking, playing cards and reading comics.

Everything was, is and will be normal, the Polish press declared yesterday in their analysis of Solidarity demonstrations which broke out in Nowa Huta, Wroclaw, Warsaw, Czestochowa and Lublin.

Pictures received from Nowa Huta, the steel producing centre near Cracow, show demonstrators - perhaps 3,000 of them - ripping up pavements and passing slabs along a human chain to form a barricade against the militia tear gas and water cannon brigades. The fighting

in Nowa Huta, much of it near the new church in the town centre, was evidently bloody with some injuries also among the policemen.

The Polish press seemed torn yesterday between describing these incidents and deplored the violence and claiming, again and again that August 31 was absolutely normal, peaceful, calm.

A dispatch entitled: "Good work in Poland" from the news agency PAP, said: "The last day of August was marked by hard work in the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk where the construction of 11 ships con-

The report did not mention that after the good work the workers demonstrated with some conviction their support for the Gdansk agreement which three years ago anchored the right to have free and independent trade unions.

Most commentators describe Wednesday's demonstrations as probably the last attempt of the Solidarity underground to organize demonstrations. That remains to be seen. In the meantime the Government is fostering what might be termed the propaganda of ordinaryness.

Shuttle arm proves its muscle

Cape Canaveral (AFP) - Astronauts of the space shuttle Challenger tested the spacecraft's 50-ft robot arm yesterday, lifting a 7,640lb package designed to simulate satellites the shuttle is to retrieve and deploy in the future.

"It works like a charm," the mission specialist Dale Gardner, told mission control in Houston, after lifting the ammonium and lead object.

The space agency hopes to use the Canadian-manufactured arm to deploy and retrieve satellites weighing as much as 65,000lb, and later to build a space station.

Soviet soldier refused asylum

Zirndorf, West Germany (Reuters) - A Soviet soldier interned in Switzerland after being captured by Afghan guerrillas has been refused political asylum in West Germany, a West German spokesman said yesterday.

The Federal Asylum Office rejected Mr Yuri Ivanovich Vashchenko's request, saying he had already found protection from political persecution in Switzerland, where he escaped from internment.

Security forces photographed those taking part, who were unable to hand in letters to the Soviet and American embassies.

Both men have been in custody since May awaiting trial.

West German protesters blockade American base

From Michael Birney, Bonn

At dawn, exactly 44 years after the German invasion of Poland that started the Second World War, anti-nuclear demonstrators began a blockade of the American military airfield at Muelheim.

In East Berlin, the demonstrators, holding lit candles, had planned a vigil lasting half-an-hour, but they were quickly surrounded by police. Four people, including an Evangelical clergyman, were arrested.

The West German peace movement's protest marked the start of a series of blockades, marches and rallies against the stationing of US nuclear missiles in West Germany planned for the autumn.

About 2,500 people, including Herr Heinrich Böll, the Nobel Prize-winning author, Herr Oskar Lafontaine, the left-wing Social Democratic Mayor of Saarbrücken, and Herr Erhard Eppler, a former Mayor of West Berlin, took part in a silent march round the American base.

Some 400 people then sat down in the entrance road. They will be immediately replaced as and when they are removed by police in an attempt to keep up the blockade for three days.

No incidents had been reported by yesterday. The police, who were out in force, made no move to engage the demonstrators, who sang songs and adored the barbed wire surrounding the base with wild flowers.

They also strung a banner with the peace movement's slogan "Swords into ploughshares" on the wire near the main gate.

The peace movement believes Pershing 1 missiles are due to be moved from the base in the next few days, but an American spokesman said traffic was normal and no rockets had been redeployed.

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On hand: Heinrich Böll outside the US base

'Impotence' on Chad condemned

From Zoriana Pyariwsky
New York

Sir John Thomson, Britain's representative to the United Nations, has berated the Security Council for its inactivity on the war in Chad. In terms less than diplomatic he said that the sterile debate throughout the conflict had unnecessarily veiled the council's "handwringing impotence".

His statement was unusual for its candour in a body whose members direct their criticism at everything but the Council which is referred to in reverent terms. But his candour reflected a commonly held feeling of frustration.

Four weeks had passed since the present debate was initiated at the request of Chad and the dimensions of the conflict had become more serious, said Sir John. Despite prolonged efforts by some members of the Council to end the stalemate, no measure was in sight.

Chad, a poor defences country with its north overrun by Libyan armaments, was a situation tailor-made for the Council, he said.

Later yesterday, police fired tear gas at a crowd in Karachi when it turned out to greet Mr Chaudhry Suleiman, leader of the Pakistan National Party and a former governor of Baluchistan, as he counted arrest by denouncing martial law.

Falklands setback for Britain

From Our Correspondent
New York

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Sir John Thomson, the British representative, expressed "a degree of disappointment" that the committee charged with promoting the principle of self-determination did not show more regard "for a people whose future is at stake."

Cairo swoop

Cairo (Reuters) - Egyptian police have arrested 19 members of an armed communist underground organization which they say planned to overthrow the Government.

Oil inferno

Salvador, Brazil (AFP) - Three railway tanker wagons carrying 30,000 gallons of oil blew up after a train derailed, killing 17 people and injuring 200 others, 80 of them seriously.

Ship surrender

Limassol (AP) - Twelve armed men who seized a Romanian cargo ship at Tripoli, Lebanon, and forced it to sail to Cyprus, surrendered yesterday, a police spokesman said.

Howe's trip

Mexico has pulled out of its economic nosedive, President says

From Christopher Thomas, Mexico City

President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico said yesterday that the Mexican economy was "no longer in a nosedive". Just a year after collapse of the currency threatened to lead Central America into a series of catastrophic defaults.

"But the crisis is still with us," he told Congress in his first State of the Nation address, nine months after taking office. Companies still had difficulties, inflation persisted, serving the nation's debt was a burden, and there was insufficient foreign exchange for imports.

The two-and-a-half-hour speech was flavoured at the beginning and end with the traditional but largely meaningless revolutionary rhetoric that permeates Mexican politics. In essence, though, it was addressed to foreign ears - the bankers and governments who were shaken last year by the suspension of payments on \$53,000m of foreign debt.

In one memorable weekend in August one of the largest financial aid packages in history was put together by the United States and other governments. Since then stringent austerity measures have been introduced - and mostly accepted without the widespread strikes that at one point looked inevitable - in return for the help of the International Monetary Fund.

Inflation has fallen below three figures (the official July figure was just under 5 per cent), unemployment has stopped surging forward

at the rate it has for most of the last 12 months and there was a \$6,300m trade surplus in the first half of the year.

But President de la Madrid gave a warning: "The international prospects are not encouraging; the challenge is enormous and analogous to times of war." The destiny of the nation is at stake."

Despite the draconian cost-cutting measures affecting almost every Mexican, he announced salary increases of 3,000 pesos (\$15) a month for employees of the Government's executive, legislative and judicial branches and for the armed forces.

Clearly, he is anxious to avert disaster on his own doorstep. The President also touched on that most traditional of Mexican institutions - corruption - and

Breakthrough claimed in El Salvador talks

of El Salvador on a meeting he held in Costa Rica on Tuesday with four representatives of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), the umbrella organization for five guerrilla groups trying to overthrow the El Salvador Government.

Mr Stone was speaking after nearly three hours of talks on Wednesday night with President Belisario Porfirio of Colombia, who had earlier met a representative of the guerrillas.

He arrived in Bogotá after briefing President Alvaro Magana

Minister goes to aid of flood-hit Basque region

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

A central Government team headed by Señor José Barriente, the Interior Minister, arrives today in the Basque country to work out details of huge financial assistance to one of Spain's main industrial regions, now officially a catastrophe area.

His mission is important not only in laying a basis for industrial reconstruction but for future relations between Madrid and the Basque autonomous regional government.

These had been deteriorating until last weekend's torrential rains and flooding, with an official death toll of more than 40, brought a rescue operation by the central Government.

The Cabinet, devoting its entire session on Wednesday to the problems left by the floods in northern Spain, accepted a provisional figure of the damage to industry, infrastructure and agriculture, but excluding private homes, of more than \$50 billion pesetas (£2.4 billion), one ninth of

Spain's entire national budget this year.

The Cabinet ordered Señor Barriente to open talks with Señor Carlos Garatecochea, the Basque Chief Minister, and the other regional authorities.

Many Basque industrialists foresaw a two-month lull before they can get back into production and some 25,000 workers in a region already suffering heavy unemployment face up to three months only on unemployment pay.

This has been allowed under an emergency provision for temporary redundancies, but the future of these workers is highly uncertain.

Local economists are questioning whether the talks will mean an attempt to reconstruct on central Government funds, local industries in crisis because of the depression and ETA terrorism or finally force the restructuring of the Basque region's old heavy industries.

The Basque Nationalist Party in power is closely linked to the small and medium-sized companies who have been worst hit by the flooding.

Broadcasting on state television, the Basque Chief Minister admitted the region's dependence on the central Government coming to its rescue, but spoke of the risks of favouritism in distributing financial aid.

The Interior Minister, after emphasizing that four Civil Guards had died in rescue operations, said he hoped the extent of future aid would clear up suspicions between the Basque people and the Spanish state.

Elections to the Basque Parliament are due next spring, with the Socialists strong challengers.

Señor Barriente: Mission to build trust.

Police take fizz out of beer extortion plot

The Hague (AP) - Police here yesterday denied responsibility for the death of a student in a three-hour clash on Wednesday in which about 40 people were injured shortly after the funeral of Benigno Aquino, the assassinated opposition leader.

The student was shot dead as soldiers and policemen battled with students protesting over the murder of Mr Aquino on August 21.

A police spokesman said that scores of people, including at least three policemen, were injured by stray bullets or missiles which he said were fired or thrown.

Mr Salvador Laurel, another opposition leader, said yesterday that President Marcos should step down and give way to a caretaker government to head off a violent revolution in the Philippines.

Mr Laurel, president of the United National Democratic Organization, said that such a caretaker government, composed of respected citizens, should investigate the assassination.

It should also implement a policy of national reconciliation by giving an amnesty to political detainees, writing a new constitution and calling a general election.

Guerrillas kill Russians

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Nine Soviet military advisers have been killed in Cambodia by anti-Vietnamese guerrillas, according to a well-informed Western diplomat here. The diplomat, who is regarded as an authority on the military situation in Cambodia, refused to be named but said he had learnt of the incident from a "very trustworthy" source.

He said the incident occurred three weeks ago at an army training centre near Kompong Cham, 45 miles east of Phnom Penh. Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked the Russians as they were instructing Vietnamese soldiers in the use of multiple

rocket launchers. At least 10 Vietnamese soldiers had also been killed.

The incident has not been confirmed by other sources although an official of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) said they had learnt that Vietnamese soldiers had been ambushed near Kompong Cham in early August.

Last year Khmer Rouge guerrillas killed Mr Nhem Heng, Deputy Agriculture Minister in the Phnom Penh Government, near the huge rubber plantation outside Kompong Cham.

About 500 Russians work in Cambodia on aid projects.

Winning the fight against disease and destitution

Things are getting better in Calcutta . . . slowly

From Michael Hastings
Calcutta

A man in the piercingly white robes with the bands of blue, made internationally famous by Mother Teresa, agreed. Yes, the conditions of the poor in Calcutta are getting better.

Sister Margaret Mary, who has been with the Missionaries of Charity since 1956, when Mother Teresa founded the order, smiled. "You don't get people dying and rotting in the street," she said. "You don't get young children simply thrown on the rubbish tips."

But Calcutta is still the city of pavement dwellers. It is still a city of dense slums and hunger. The real effacement of pavement dwellers came with the inflow of two million refugees from East Bengal when it became East Pakistan in 1947.

Their numbers have been swollen from time to time as drought or flood or other natural calamities which seem endemic to Bengal have driven people from the land.

The authorities believe that maybe as many as 100,000 people live out of doors all the year round, moving to railway station platforms or bus shelters when the brief but energetic monsoon leaves the roads awash with mud and water.

People have been born and raised on the pavements, have lived their whole lives and died there. There have been marriages in which the proud father's dowry to his daughter was the best piece of pavement on the block to share with his wife.

Schools for the children of such unions are now conducted on the pavements, run by charitable



Road block: The authorities in Calcutta see no hope of ending the city's traffic chaos.

organizations such as the Latin American Church, or by former pavement dwellers who have managed to lift themselves from their poverty.

The authorities also agree with Sister Margaret Mary that things in Calcutta are getting better, however. Mr S. C. Basu, who speaks for the Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA), is a cluttered office not far down the Lower Circular Road from the Missionaries of Charity, pointed out that in the sixties Calcutta could regularly expect an average of 1,000 deaths a year from cholera. In the past few years they have had none.

The problems of the city were allowed to fester after independence. When finally conditions got to be so intolerable that armed revolution was visibly brewing in the streets, the responsibility for action was taken away from the city council and given to the Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA).

The CMDA speaks proudly of its achievements in bringing a better water supply to the slum dwellers. The last big water works were built by the British 120 years ago. The last main sewer was built in 1896. Now the water supply has increased from

22 gallons per head per day to 40 gallons.

There is a tap for every 25 slum houses. The CMDA has provided sanitary latrines. It has covered drains, provided concrete roads to replace the muddy tracks between the shacks. Street lighting is installed.

The authority admits to one failure, traffic. There have been a number of massive projects aimed at improving the roads around the city. "At present our roads are about 100 km shorter per cent per year, compared with 7 per cent a year for Bombay and Delhi.

Calcutta has ceased to be quite the magnet it was, as the only source of industrial employment in the eastern belt, while in the countryside the land which supported only one crop of grain a year now is more productive.

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SPECTRUM

Playing host to Pershing



Petra Kelly, the charismatic Green

West Germany faces fierce anti-missile protests this autumn.

Michael Binyon profiles Bitburg, already the scene of demonstrations (top)

and thought to be a possible home for the super-fast rockets the Soviets, and others, fear

Tucked away in the hills near the Luxembourg border, Bitburg is one of those small, charming towns that typifies rural Germany: prosperous, piously Catholic, staunchly conservative and of course renowned for its pilsener beer. But this quiet community, like half a dozen others in West Germany, is experiencing a hot autumn of unwelcome protests, civil disobedience and rallies by demonstrators from all parts of the Rhineland. For Bitburg is one of the possible sites where American cruise missiles will be deployed. And as the December deadline for agreement at the Geneva arms talks looms nearer, Bitburg is looking anxiously at what deployment would mean for its people, their security and their close friendship with the Americans in their midst.

Since 1952 Bitburg has been host to the 36th Tactical Fighter Wing of the United States Air Force. Some 12,000 Servicemen and their families are stationed there, doubling the population. Over the past 30 years 16,000 American children have been born in Bitburg and hundreds of servicemen have taken local brides. Inter-community relations have been happier than in almost any other American base town in Germany. The visitors earn praise for their participation in the festivals, sports clubs and life of this small community. Their German hosts - who depend on the base and the two military airfields for their livelihood - have tried to make the Servicemen welcome. Herr Theo Hallet, the respected and outgoing mayor, makes a point of attending American func-

tions, greeting new Servicemen, settling speedily the few problems that arise between the two communities. But even Herr Hallet, a Christian Democrat who supports the Nato twinfight decision, is uneasy at the prospect of Bitburg becoming a missile launching pad. Earlier this year he wrote to the Minister of Defence in Bonn to say his town had enough military installations already. He was told that no decision had been reached.

And indeed no one knows for sure when and whether the missiles are coming. No public announcement has been made in Bonn about what is to be deployed or where - unlike the other four Nato countries, Britain, Italy, Belgium and Holland, which have identified their sites. All the West Germans know is that the 108 Pershing 2 missiles, the lightning-fast rockets most feared by the Soviets, will be stationed in their country, probably in the same silos where the Pershing 1 missiles are now, and that these weapons will be the first to arrive.

The movement's campaign will come to a climax next month. During an "action week" from October 15 until 22 there will be demonstrations throughout the country, with huge rallies in Bonn, Hamburg and Stuttgart, the European Command headquarters of the American forces in Western Europe.

The movement's leaders, including the charismatic Petra Kelly, of the Green Party, insist it will stick to non-violent methods. But the authorities are doubtful. Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the Minister of the Interior, has already given warnings that professional agitators, many of them from the radical squatters in West Berlin, will infiltrate the demonstrations to stir up violence on the streets. Alarmed by the riots in Krefeld in June when demonstrators threw stones at the car of George Bush, the American Vice-President, Zimmermann has introduced a Bill to outlaw violent demonstrations.

What worries the Government especially is the prospect of violence being used against the Americans. Some 300,000 are stationed in Germany, and terrorist groups on both the far left and the far right could use the

beginning of the American barracks. The citizens of Bitburg have been less willing to take to the streets themselves.

But elsewhere in Germany there is strong opposition to the missiles. In Trier, an ancient and larger city 25 miles away, six separate peace groups are trying to rally local people against the deployment decision. At Easter they held a number of marches that converged on Bitburg attended by about 2,000 people; in the next few weeks marches will be held all over Germany, and the Bitburg barracks like those elsewhere, will be the focus of anti-nuclear rallies.

West Germany's peace movement is strong - probably stronger than that in any other Nato country. It has the backing of important sectors of the community - the trade unions, the churches, especially the radicalized Evangelical Church, and left-wing politicians, including the activist Green Party.

Most importantly, the main political opposition to the Government, the Social Democrats, are rapidly moving away from their original support for deployment (for which Herr Helmut Schmidt, as SPD Chancellor, lobbied hard before 1979) and many members have given open backing to the peace movement.

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What worries the Government especially is the prospect of violence being used against the Americans. Some 300,000 are stationed in Germany, and terrorist groups on both the far left and the far right could use the

demonstrations as a cover for renewed attacks.

But even direct action by protesters could turn ugly. In West Germany, as in Britain, the Americans will leave the protection of their bases in the first instance to local police - who will be out in strength. American soldiers will be confined to the inside of the base perimeters to deal with intruders, and have instructions to use only minimum force. But troops guarding missiles and their launchers will be sharper and tougher in their reactions. Their orders are to shoot anyone who tries to get inside the closely guarded, electronically protected igloos where the warheads will be stored.

Since his resounding election victory in March, Chancellor Helmut Kohl has made it clear that he will go ahead with deployment if necessary, no matter how many people take to the streets. His resolution, which he restated in Moscow to leave the Soviets under no circumstances, has taken some of the steam out of the peace movement.

But for the opponents of deployment, West Germany is still worth fighting for. The Federal Republic is the key to the whole Nato strategy. If there is a postponement or any alteration in the timetable, or if Bonn balks at taking the Pershings, deployment of the cruises elsewhere, especially in Holland and Belgium, would be virtually impossible this year. The prospect of mass demonstrations could have a serious effect on the Geneva arms talks. For it could burden the Government with related political difficulties - such as the controversy over the new proposals on demonstrations - and upset the sensitive relationship with East Germany. The pressure is now on Dr Kohl to persuade the Americans to settle for a compromise.

Since their return from Moscow, the Chancellor and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, have publicly hinted that they would support a formula similar to that worked out by Paul Nitze and Yuri Kvitsinsky, the American and Soviet negotiators, during their famous walk in the woods last year. This envisages the deployment by the west of only 75 missiles, waiving the Pershings, with a Soviet reduction of its SS 20s to 20.

But open backing at this stage for this compromise is seen by many in Washington as a fatal undermining of the Western negotiating position, for it presupposes a scrapping of the Pershings. The weapon that is thought to

concentrate Soviet military minds on the dangers to them of their present arms build-up. The Americans received the German hints in stony silence, and Bonn has quickly retracted all talk of such a compromise. For America and Germany know that a failure to deploy the Pershings would mean that no weapons arrive in Germany this year as the cruises will not be in position until 1986. And the resolution of the other Nato partners could be damaged.

Dr Kohl has insisted he will do what is required of him by the Alliance, and has reacted angrily to suggestions that his Government is looking for a way out. Equally, he does not want to play the role of mediator between East and West, for he knows that such an attempt would arouse damaging suspicions in Washington.

Until recently one issue that had not arisen in Germany was the control of the missiles. Bonn has never asked for and does not seek a "second key".

The country has long ago renounced nuclear weapons of its own, and believes that dual control would be tantamount to going back on this tenet, which would instantly worsen Bonn's relations with the Eastern block. However, Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the maverick Bavarian leader, did make just such a call during the lazy summer months. It was firmly rejected by Dr Kohl, who said there was adequate consultation in the Nato nuclear planning group.

Germans have grown used to the armies of their allies on their territory. The United States military presence in the country commands overwhelming political support, and only the extreme left and extreme right want to throw out the former occupation forces. But within Germany, and especially among the Social Democrats and those on the political left, there is a growing feeling that for too long the allies, in particular the Americans, have had too much say in what should constitute the defence of West Germany.

The citizens of Bitburg still like and trust the Americans. They do not agonize over Pentagon politics, or see in the officers who live among them the embodiment of militarism, as radicals in the big cities do. But even in Bitburg, and in the other little towns wondering if they have been chosen to take the new missiles, there is a shaking of heads. A feeling that Germany could do without such weapons. It is feeling the negotiators in Geneva can't altogether leave out of their calculations.

the start of that vital business trip, it only grips half of it gently, rather than swallowing it whole. It doesn't give you the card back until you have had your ticket, or boarding card, just in case you wander off absent-mindedly without it.

Show trial

In November, the Barbican will be housing the biggest ever exhibition of the work of Britain's design schools. The whole of the centre's art gallery will be occupied by work from more than 600 students and ex-students.

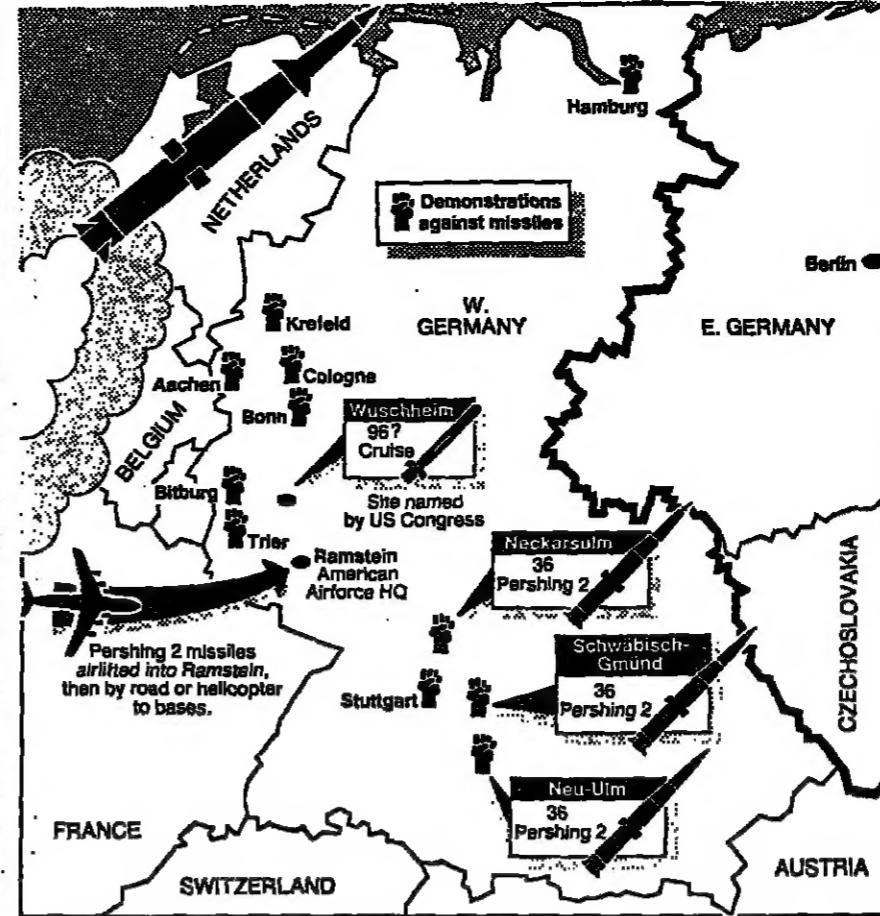
The point is to show the breadth and the quality of what they can do.

But this is not simply a celebration. According to Professor Bruce Archer of the Royal College of Art, the whole of the art and design school system is on trial at the moment. "The Department of Trade and the Department of Education have both given us substantial sums to put this on, and I've no doubt that the reason is to give them a chance to examine our claims to be doing a good job."

Professor Archer thinks that after the golden age of the 1950s and 1960s the art schools, when design courses in particular, lost their way. To find out what went wrong, he is organizing a series of conferences that will run with the exhibitions. They will be run like public inquiries with inspectors - who include Sir Monty Finniston, the former British Steel chairman, and radio presenter Brian Redhead, and opposing counsel who will be cross-examining witnesses.

But what it all comes down to is examining firstly just how good our designers are, secondly, how useful are they to us, and thirdly, if they are so useful, why aren't they used more effectively?

Deyan Sudjic



moreover...
Miles Kington

Fringe a bit thin at Auld Reekie

Edinburgh There is a widespread legend that the Edinburgh Fringe is a hot nursery of talent, that every year new geniuses are discovered, wet behind the ears, and are then rushed down to London, heads hanging out of the train window, so that their cars dry in time for their first triumphant London appearance. The list is endless, people say. Beyond the Fringe, Tom Stoppard, Rowan Atkinson...

As far as I can make out, the list stops right there. In the last 20 years I can't think of anyone else who has shot to immediate stardom or, at the very least, colour magazine status. The very first fringe company I was part of, the 1963 Oxford group, contained a couple of future Monty Python members and directors like Michael Rudman and Graham Murray, but it took them years and years to climb up to fame and fortune. Our revenge, in fact, was transferred to the London West End for a disastrous two weeks which may well have set our careers back a while, or at least warned us not to expect too much too soon. One actor, whom I remember as a very funny man, was so sobered that he is today head of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England.

If anything, the opposite is true. There is a sort of excited buzz at the Fringe, which makes a lot of quite good things seem very good indeed. For three weeks, Edinburgh becomes a mini-version of New York, with ones that legendary excitement in the air that Essex convinces people great things are happening there. In the last six years, I have seen only a few Fringe shows which were so good that I'd thought they could survive the transition to London.

A one-man show by Chris Langham. A begin minie show by Bob Berk. A two-hander called *Wet Ham v Hertz*. I saw all three in up to London and they were all still very good. But this year, there was something missing... The air of for Edinburgh, it must have been, which for these three weeks becomes a sort of hallucinogenic drug.

This year there are apparently more revues than ever, more cabaret and comedy and fewer Brecht and gay theatre companies, which seems to back up the theory about people giggling their way through a recession. The general standard seems pretty high, with nothing particularly outstanding. I very much enjoyed the Omelette Broadcasting Company's evening of totally improvised comedy, though to an actor with workshop training, I guess it would appear less than astounding.

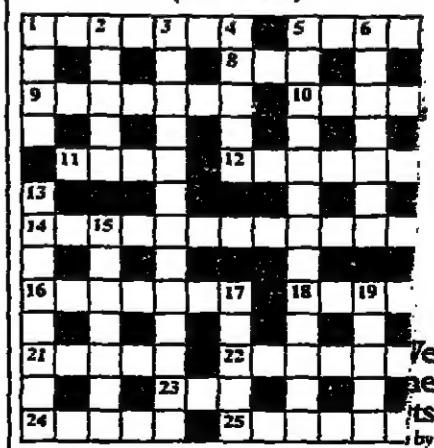
There were lots of good things in a show called *Wow*. The National Theatre of Brent is excellent. Nola Rae is a very observant and beguiling mime, with a version of *Hamlet* performed entirely with her hands that should get this year's unusual Shakespeare award.

But was it all just the Edinburgh air? I don't quite think so. As by contrast I was very disappointed by the show which is said to be the hottest ticket in town, *Stand Up Comedy*. This is the label for three of our so-called New Wave comedians, Ben Elton, Andy de la Tour, and Rik Mayall. Mayall could be a bit of a also genius, I think, but the other two rely entirely on remorseless quickfire patter about the doleyness of timing and drugs, in a style devoid of timing or light and shade which would avega. From old fashioned in 1930, and makes Alexei Sayle look very good indeed.

Norman Tebbit is the New Wave what mothers-in-law are to Les Dawson; only the jokes aren't nearly so good. I have to record faithfully that a lot of the audience fell about, rather as university union audiences roared about when the name of the union librarian ich mentioned, or as rock audiences clapped themselves when they recognize the start of day.

What startles me most is that the one show I was really bowled over by in the comed field was not New Wave or revue. Improvised or mimed. It was the Brass Band. Five hugely gifted musicians from California who play immaculate versions of Tchaikovsky, Brahms and other sacred stuff, while clowning around as relentlessly as a Wall-E Disney cartoon. I usually find it easy to remember American comedy styles, but I'm not knockabout wit, surreal humour and wonderful musicianship of these five. Especially the two trumpeters, who probably struck up a partnership like two Harpo Marx - battered down my defences and left it.

The question still remains, though: Would enjoy them as much in London? The answer is that, up here in Edinburgh, it seems totally remote question. And now, if you'll excuse me, I have another five shows to before sundown.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 139)

SOLUTION TO No 138
ACROSS: 1. Tradition up in smoke, 5. CAULOISES, 9. Engaged woman, 11. Friend, 13. New, 14. Giraffe, 15. Nostrils, 16. Mounted game, 17. Demure, 18. Reticent, 19. Infinitive, 20. Craft, 21. Wall painting, 22. Friend, 23. Unsoiled, 24. Stuff fabric, 25. Large conundrum.
DOWN: 1. Rustic, 2. Friend, 3. Friend, 4. Conclude, 5. Wealth gatherer, 6. Veneration, 7. Therapeutic, 8. Friend, 9. Friend, 10. Friend, 11. Friend, 12. Statement, 13. Friend, 14. Friend, 15. Friend, 16. Friend, 17. Friend, 18. Friend, 19. Friend, 20. Friend, 21. Friend, 22. Friend, 23. Friend, 24. Friend, 25. Friend.

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Prize-winning Concise Crossword answers

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: DESIGN

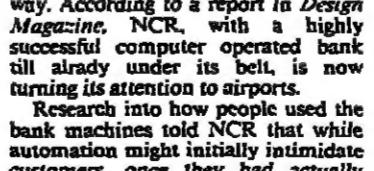
**The memorial that moves**

Apart from a motley collection of regimental memorials, some modest cairns and crosses, and the small Falklands Government plaque, there is no single national monument to those who died in the Falklands War last year. It is a lack that has inspired a London-based group of design students and engineers to design a mobile memorial that would be strong enough to serve as a permanent memorial, but which would be light and portable enough to be flown out to the South Atlantic, and helicoptered into position. Transfer, to come up with a design for a major landmark that would be as strong as the men and equipment who took part in the conflict there. We thought that a simple, strong shape would be much more powerful than tons of marble.

They came up with a 40 metre high

steel tripod, made up of telescopic aluminium alloy sections protected by plastic, and reinforced with carbon fibre which could fold into a Hercules transport plane. It would have the advantage of being capable of being erected in Britain before departure so that the people who will never get to the Falklands could see it. And for the significance of the tripod shape, Transfer says: "It would look as if it had just landed on the island, in exactly the same way as the men and equipment who took part in the conflict there.

Even more important was the need to design the machine so that it could mollycoddle and soothe confused and jet-lagged passengers. The first thing the machine's screen asks you is what language you want to use. Then, to reassure you that you are not going to lose your credit card for ever just at

Checking-out

The next profession to be joining the endangered species list looks like being airport check-in staff, at least if data equipment manufacturer NCR gets its way. According to a report in *Design Magazine*, NCR, with a highly successful computer operated bank till already under its belt, is now turning its attention to airports.

Research into how people used the bank machines told NCR that while automation might initially intimidate customers, once they had actually mastered the technique they often preferred queuing to use a machine than walking straight up to a human. So NCR commissioned design consultants Douglas Kelley Associates to design a machine that could tackle the far more complex task of checking-in arriving passengers, selling tickets, accepting bags and making reservations. The result is something called the Skylink, which is now making a sales trip around the airline executive offices of the world.

Feed it a credit card, and it will sell you a ticket; put in a magnet coded ticket, and it hands out boarding passes.

At the design stage Kelley tried two alternative arrangements for the console: tall and thin like a space invader machine, and short and fat

FRIDAY PAGE

MEDICAL BRIEFING

The hidden dangers of heartburn

 Most people accept an occasional bout of heartburn — that sharp, burning sensation felt just above the stomach — as a small price to pay for rich food and overindulgence. But anyone who suffers it frequently (three or four times a week) should go and see their GP because, although it may seem a trivial complaint, there may be a more serious reason for the heartburn.

This advice follows a study of 126 patients in the Belfast area who had regular bouts of heartburn. Heartburn is often thought to be caused by "reflux oesophagitis", a condition in which stomach juices are propelled upwards into the channel leading from the mouth to the stomach. Because the juices are acidic they "graze" the delicate lining skin.

But examinations of the Belfast patients suggests that heartburn is a far from simple symptom. Of the 126 examined only 21 had no abnormalities. Forty-five per cent of the other 105 patients suffered from reflux oesophagitis, and the others had a range of more serious complaints from active ulcers and hernias to inflammation of the lower part of the digestive tract.

A jet lag pill?

 Taking a pill to counteract the effects of jet lag would be every international traveller's dream. And at the University of Surrey some fascinating research into the natural hormone melatonin suggests it might be possible within the decade.

Melatonin, secreted by the pineal gland in the brain during night time, is known to regulate daily behaviour in animals.

In humans the effects of the hormone are not well defined although it is known to help people sleep. Jet lag results from lack of sleep and a disturbed 24-hour rhythm. In theory, any agent which could speed up the resynchronization of the human clock should minimize the symptoms.

Dr Josephine Arendt of the Department of Biochemistry at Surrey has been working on the possibility of using melatonin as this agent, though she stresses that the research is only in its theoretical stage.

Dr Arendt argues that if you take melatonin every day for three or four days before a long flight — at the time you would be going to bed at your destination — you body should gradually adapt to the new time zone.

Alternatively, you could take melatonin after the flight at local night time both to send you to sleep and to superimpose a new time artificially on your natural body system.

Dr Arendt had recently flown the Atlantic and used melatonin three days before she flew. She suffered no jet lag.

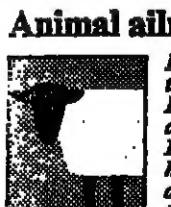
Rising cancer toll

 Death rate from lung cancer in women continues to creep up in the USA, according to the American Cancer Society which estimates that 17 per cent of all cancer deaths among women in 1983 will be due to lung cancer. This percentage is exceeded only by that for breast cancer which is running at 18 per cent for all cancer deaths.

In Britain, it is thought that lung cancer mortality will overtake breast cancer mortality in the next few years.

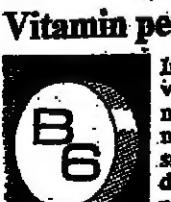
Although there are fewer smokers in this country, 33 per cent of the population in 1982 compared with 37 per cent in 1980, women are giving up smoking at a slower rate than men.

Animal ailments

 Experts at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Public Health Laboratory Service have called on doctors and vets to cooperate to combat diseases passed on to man from animals. At the moment bacterial infections in meat, poultry and milk which cause stomach upsets are the most troublesome of these diseases in this country. But a paper in last week's British Medical Journal expresses concern that other illnesses passed on from sheep and pigs could become important.

It points out that it has been known since 1940 that most salmonella infections in man come from animals, yet the problem is not yet under control. Brucellosis, brucellosis and tuberculosis took more than 30 years to eradicate. The authors propose that a special task force of doctors be set up to study the diseases and act quickly in an outbreak.

Vitamin peril

 If you take extra vitamin B6 as a matter of routine you may be wise to make sure your daily intake doesn't creep up. The normal daily requirement of vitamin B6 for adults is only 2 to 4 mg. The vitamin is freely available at chemists, however, and many people add it to their diet. It is also frequently recommended in doses of 30-150 mg to help combat premenstrual syndrome.

But doctors in America are warning that, while these doses of the vitamin may be safe, taking larger doses on the basis that "more is better" could have disastrous consequences. They have seen seven people who became ill because they took as much as 14 to 20 times the usual daily supplement. Over a period of time the individuals developed clumsy, uncoordinated and numb limbs.

Olivia Thoms and Lorraine Fraser

Lee Rodwell on the problems facing Britain's two million illiterate adults

The plight of society's write-offs

When the adult literacy campaign was launched in 1975 many people saw it as a quick "mopping up operation", a short term measure which would virtually wipe out adult illiteracy in Britain within a few years. The recent report by the Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit (ALBSU) dispelled this notion once and for all.

Large numbers of children are still leaving school so ill equipped in the basic skills of reading, writing and spelling that they face real difficulties coping with everyday life. The number of functionally illiterate adults is now officially estimated at two million. As that was not disturbing enough, the report also indicated that the adult literacy programme is failing to reach the majority of those who could benefit from it; however hampered people feel by their inability to fill in forms, read job advertisements or write letters, only 15 per cent had ever attended courses to improve their reading and writing skills.

All kinds of different approaches are being tried to give adult literacy schemes popular appeal. Classes and courses are being augmented by reading clubs, and drop-in centres which offer immediate help in form filling and letter writing.

In Sheffield, classes have been held in a pub, in a bingo hall and in a health centre, places where people need not feel self-conscious if a neighbour spots them coming or going. Manchester has just appointed a media liaison assistant, Barbara Hawkins, who is looking at the possibilities of working with local radio and television. She says: "We have to widen our approach to attract students. It's no good distributing leaflets and posters to people who don't read. And you can't expect people to come simply because they've been through the school system and failed. They are quite likely to feel they don't want to come back to school and fail again."

If the adult literacy experts accept that they have to change their approach in order to reach more people, they also feel that society should change its approach to the whole question of reading and writing skills. Alan Wells says: "Literacy is a concept that changes all the time. A hundred years ago you were illiterate if you put an X and literate if you could sign your name."

These days there is so much people have to be able to read in their daily lives — from local government departments, bills, notes from your child's school. No one ever suggests that there is anything odd about going to classes to brush up your French, even though you might have been taught French at school. We need to recognize that improving your reading and writing at 35 is a valuable and reasonable thing to do."

It is clear from a recent report by Her Majesty's Inspectors that the situation is likely to get worse, not better. The report, published last month, says: "Many primary and secondary schools have found themselves obliged by a combination of resource reductions and falling rolls to concentrate on the middle range of pupils with a consequence that the educational needs of the most and least able are not adequately reflected in either curriculum or organization". The inspector reported deficiencies in remedial teaching in primary schools and lack of support or appropriate curricula for slow learners in secondary schools.

Mr Arnold Rabinowitz, an educational psychologist, who is the coordinator of remedial studies for the Inner London Education Authority, feels that existing remedial education in some parts of Britain could be greatly improved. He said: "In many



remedial classes children are just taught the mechanical skill of reading signs — I call it barking at print. They go through the motions, but the fact they are reading never sinks in and once they leave school, they can't do it without the teacher."

"You have to motivate children, use unusual teaching techniques. One of the things we do is to use a computer which gets children reading very quickly. You use a very simple program which flashes up a picture and requires you to type in the spelling. If you are right you get a thumbs up picture, if not a thumbs down. A computer can go on longer than a teacher can, it doesn't get cross, it doesn't show any signs of impatience."

Mr Rabinowitz also believes that schools should involve parents. "That way school is not separated from real life for the children who get immediate reinforcement and praise from the people who really count." He cited a recent project in Hackney to prove his point. PACT (Parents, Children and Teachers Together) was set up to get schools and the parents working together on children's reading. Since the scheme started, literacy in the schools involved has increased dramatically.

Yet even Mr Rabinowitz cannot foresee a day when adult illiteracy will be a thing of the past. He said: "Even the most educated people tend to rely on television for fiction rather than the printed word. Reading is now something you do for instruction, not pleasure. So it is surprising that many children fail to see the value of it until they have left school!"

Robert: I got desperate

When Robert Merry went for his first job as a crane driver at Vauxhall Motors in Luton, Bedfordshire, he had to ask his brother to fill in his application form. He left school barely able to write his name and address or read anything other than signs which said No Exit or Way Out.

Now 24 years old, he struggles to explain why he never learnt to read and write at school and why it took him four years before he decided to look for help.

"When I first went to school I got along quite well, but then I fell out with some of the teachers," he says. They put me on those Janet and John books and I just got bored. When I went to the secondary school I was going quite well but then I came up against the same problem. I just rebelled, I skived off for about two years. I never thought about the future, I didn't think about all the things I'd have to do when I left school."

"I did go to remedial classes, but I was way behind my age group. The teachers didn't seem that bothered. They knew I'd be doing labouring or some low-grade job. It wasn't too bad. I could read a very basic sentence and I could make out what trains were going to London or Bedford. You pretend a lot. If someone hands you a newspaper you make out you're reading it and you pick up enough from the news on television to keep a conversation going."

"But in the end I got desperate. I had to take a test because I wanted to upgrade my job and I didn't do too well. I was thinking of going on a TOPS course and the jobcentre suggested I contact an adult literacy scheme."

"I was really nervous — I didn't know what to expect. But it wasn't like school. No one forced you to do anything. I started to write from my own experiences, what it was like at work, things like that. And a year ago I started to read for pleasure. When I was a kid I wouldn't have dreamed of reading for fun."

Robert has now been working on his English for four years and he has his own theories why people fail to apply for the kind of help he has been getting.

"When people talk about illiterates you don't think that applies to you. Maybe you just feel you need to brush up your spelling or something. Also people are afraid, it's going to be too much like school. But it isn't like that at all. Before, you think you're the only person like that in the world, so it's great to meet people who've been through the same kind of things. A lot of people treat you quite rough if you can't read or write very well. They have the attitude that you must be thick, you should have got it all at school."

Mark: They called me an idiot

is an old school building in Charlton Street, Luton, a group of adults have enrolled for a course to improve their English.

For some, such as the Asians, English is a second language. Others include Mark Read, who has spent all his 19 years in Luton, 11 of them at local schools.

It is not the first time Mark has tried to improve his reading and writing. When he left school he did a one-year college course. When he left his job in a supermarket (because he could not check the prices and stockists well enough to cope with filling the shelves) he joined a twice-weekly evening class.

He left before the course was completed and his English is still so limited that he cannot read a bus timetable or fill in forms without help. So why did he give up?

Mark says: "School was OK, it was just that I was a slow learner. When I was 11, I was sent to a special school for slow learners and I enjoyed it very much. I got on all right. Then I went to college for a year where they had special groups for English and I got on quite well there. Then I had a job under a government scheme working in a supermarket putting the food on the shelves."

"I found it very hard just checking the price tags, sticking on price codes and reading off the list which told you what was on the shelves. I knew they were going to say something about it, so I

wasn't too bad most of the time. I



sometimes have a look at a paper and I watch the television news to keep up with things. When I go for my money they say sign the form here and I just sign my name."

"But now I want a job at Vauxhall — or any job that comes up. I want to get to the standard where I can do some exams to get more qualifications and try for better jobs. In most jobs you have to read off different bits of paper."

"This course is better because it's a daytime one. It's better than sitting at home on the dole and it's helpful to have your evenings free."

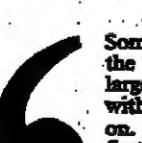
Whether Mark completes the course this time remains to be seen. Many of the students drop out. SALP recently researched why. The most common reasons were moving or getting a job or going on a full-time course. Other reasons included pregnancy, family problems, health problems and a dislike of learning.

Jolie Stephens, who carried out the research, says: "Many of these answers do not show the underlying reasons that were often hinted at during the course of an interview — high cost of fares, housing difficulties, low motivation."

"Of all these, in my opinion, low motivation is a major factor. Although they may agree that they need to improve their English, after a few weeks other problems take over and they stop coming to tuition."

Or as Mark would put it: Other things get in the way.

A victim of old habits

 Sometimes, when I tackle the ironing, I come across large white handkerchiefs with my name tapes sewn on. They date from my first entering a religious order, (I have twice been a member of a religious community, in an active community and in an enclosed order, for periods of four and a half years). In September 1968 I had arrived at the convent with two suitcases containing what was left of my worldly possessions and those items considered indispensable to the religious life. They included three high-necked, long-sleeved, ankle-length nightshirts and 14 large white gentleman's handkerchiefs.

I have trained as a teacher and did teach drama for a year, 15 years ago, but preference obviously must be given to better qualified and more experienced applicants.

Singing on at the unemployment benefit office was a harsh encounter with the secular world after the insulated existence in a contemplative community, where we were prepared for nothing more demanding than singing plainsong in the convent chapel at High Mass. After three months of unemployment I managed to get a job as an education welfare officer and a new life in the twilight world of truant schoolchildren and clothing grants began. It seemed a sensible stopgap until something better turned up. Nothing did turn up. In today's economic climate stopgap jobs seem to become the last jobs before early retirement.

Two unfortunate marriages, or prison sentences or long hospitalization for intriguing diseases seem hardly plausible, though at times they seem less embarrassing than the fact that I used to be a nun. Employers tend to react as if I am the victim in a Gothic horror story and not really a serious contender in the business of getting a job. The chances of an ex-nun getting a job are remote when she lacks the experience and the qualifications which the other applicants possess.

But doctors in America are warning that, while these doses of the vitamin may be safe, taking larger doses on the basis that "more is better" could have disastrous consequences. They have seen seven people who became ill because they took as much as 14 to 20 times the usual daily supplement. Over a period of time the individuals developed clumsy, uncoordinated and numb limbs.

FIRST PERSON

ceremonial in the convent chapel might be an advantage. It was not.

In the past, former nuns have written books about their lives in religious communities. Regrettably my experience was undistinguished and inclined to be monotonous (apart from accidentally causing a minor fire in the refectory one morning) — not enough to produce a musical like *The Sound of Music* or best-sellers like the James Herriot vet books. The most I could glean from the stable in the cloisters was a light-hearted article about the problem of getting to the nearest Marks & Spencer when the sisters in an isolated convent needed to buy their underwear. The article appeared in a women's magazine and led to an offer of some second-hand bras from a generous reader who had grown out of her.

My present job as an education welfare officer probably offers more scope for a book about occupational hazards. Certainly the transition from a convent in the country to the backstreets of a large town in pursuit of truant school children was astonishing.

But how to use all this vivid first hand material in a book which will not offend my employers, as any description of education welfare work would expose its ineffectiveness as well as its humour? No one wants a disenchanted education welfare officer, nor even one with energy and imagination. Why should they?

I have applied for all kinds of jobs including those in journalism, museums, research for television and once, in a reckless moment, I applied for the position of Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms in the House of Commons. I thought my previous experience of

THE TIMES Tomorrow

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THE TIMES DIARY

Blackballed

The Barbican concert hall is being stripped of its balls. Almost 2,000 of them, big ones and little ones, have been taken away by night from the hall ceiling, where they had been the principal architectural feature. The last handful will be removed this week, as part of the continuing efforts to improve the hall's acoustics. The balls were ruled out of court by the pianist Maurizio Pollini, a close friend of Claudio Abbado, principal conductor of the LSO, and the Barbican's resident orchestra. Pollini went to insist the acoustics at the Barbican were improving in the early spring, and his refusal to perform in the hall while the balls remained successfully knocked them six. Pollini will now play at the Barbican in December, and anyone who is short of balls should apply to the Barbican's administrator, Henry Wrong, who has plenty to spare.

Pearl of wisdom

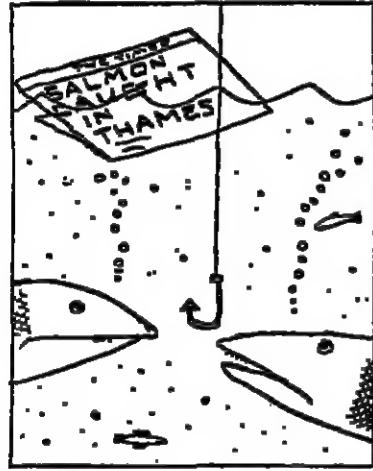
The power of the press does not extend to the Edinburgh fringe. The "diaries" of the nineteenth century courtesan, Cord Pearl, which *The Sunday Times* exposed as a hoax perpetrated by the author, Derek Parker, are cheerfully offered for sale outside the otherwise authentic one-woman musical *Cord*, starring Diana Gillespie. Had Gillespie performed some of the things described in the diaries, I doubt the Edinburgh elders would have permitted the show, even on the fringe.

A car-sticker on a Ford Cortina seen in Chelsea said: "Support the SDP - Vote Kinnock/Meacher".

Mal de mer

Lord Balfour of Inchrye is one of many whose stories do not appear in *Tales out of School: The Early Misdeeds of the Rich and Famous* published yesterday by Collectors' Books in aid of Help the Aged. Balfour wanted the story of how he contrived to be expelled from naval college because he did not like the sea to appear anonymously. By the time he related it was too late, but Balfour may find space in a sequel. Two hundred others who responded to the charity's appeal for anecdotes will not be so lucky. Their offerings were rejected as boring, with stars of stage and screen faring particularly badly. Any rejects who feel they could do better given a second chance will receive sympathetic consideration in this column.

BARRY FANTONI



"Personally, I preferred pollution"

Let us spray

Bootsie and Pittypat rest in peace with 49,000 neighbours at Aspin Hill pet cemetery, Maryland, where the director, Martha Nash, takes her work very seriously. "We had a store-bought turtle here the other day," she says, "and several funeral cars came to pay their respects. Recently we buried a squirrel, but the most unusual corpse was Pesty, A 3in by 3in box came with a note saying: 'Please give Pesty a decent burial. We have enjoyed his company for three years.' I opened the box, and there was a dead fly. I buried him with ceremony under the nearest acacia bush."

• A supplementary benefit claimant wrote to the Thanet office: "I thought I would drop you a line to say why I have moved back into my mum until this is all over."

Talking Turkey

According to its brochure, from Denizli, Turkey, "The Alaturka Hotel has run centrum of Denizli since you can merchandise easily. Cover with every-where in it (salle, hotel rooms, restaurant and lobby) from side wall to wall with carpet. Decorated suitable callers and smooth goods ... You will find polite and smiling personnel just you come in. You can find every kind of drinking and relaxing on our american bar in the lobby. And accept your guest proudly. In Our restaurant which decorated on about characteristic of Denizli. Boiling served you from Turkish and european kitchen what you want to order by the chosen waiters. On terrace view of extraordinary panorama of Denizli will give you exact relax."

Portsmouth council is looking for a doodlebug to mark the 40th anniversary of D-Day next year. It must be an original, and unexploded V1. The Imperial War Museum has one mounted on a launching frame but it would be too difficult and expensive to move. The Science Museum tried to have one on display but it was discarded, along with a Japanese Zero, because the plane, to make room for some bits and pieces of Concorde, and now they are not sure they can find it. A small delegation is accordingly to set sail for Normandy next week to treat with a farmer who allegedly found one in a tree and buried it in his back garden, where it has mouldered ever since. The negotiations with the wily Norman will be as nothing compared to the wheeling and dealing with bemused Customs officials on both sides of the Channel.

PHS

Old tensions behind the lost jet

The claimed shooting down of a South Korean airliner near Sakhalin has brought into focus an area of long-standing tension between the Soviet Union and the East Asian countries of Japan, the two Koreas and China.

The Russians have an endemic fear of "yellow hordes" dating from their tsarist days. Then, in the Middle Ages and reinforced in this century by the Tsarist empire's humiliating defeat by Japan in 1905 and the more recent 20-year-old ideological conflict with Peking, Europeans are constantly aware of the disparity between thinly-populated Siberia and the one billion Chinese to the south.

Sakhalin, the area where the Korean Airlines jumbo jet disappeared yesterday, was under joint Russian-Japanese control until 1875, when it came completely under Tsarist jurisdiction. The Japanese victory over Russia in 1905 gave the Japanese the southern island after the Second World War.

At the same time the Russians also occupied the southern Kurile Islands, which lie to the south east of Sakhalin, the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido and the Soviet Kamchatka Peninsula. Moscow's refusal even to discuss Tokyo's claim to these islands has bedevilled relations between the two countries since then.

In 1978, the Russians showed their traditional fear of East Asian power by trying to prevent the signing of a treaty of friendship between Japan and China. They objected in particular to an anti-japan clause which they saw aimed at them.

While the Soviet Union adamantly refused to consider surrendering even an inch of the South Kuriles, Moscow does want a treaty with Tokyo — on its own terms. The Russians may exorcise the Japanese for their involvement with the United States, but they have also shown an awareness of the need to involve Japan in the economic exploitation of the vast mineral wealth of Siberia.

This has led to joint work between the two countries on coal and offshore oil projects. Superior technology and financial resources are the strongest cards the Japanese have to play in their long-term dealings with the Russians, although Soviet ability to go ahead with the gas pipeline in the face of President Reagan's attempted sanctions has shown the limits of economic power when it comes to trying to put pressure on Moscow.

As well as involving the Japanese in the economic development of Siberia, the Russians would like to undermine the Japanese-American security treaty which has bedevilled relations between the two countries since then.

by reaching an agreement of their own with Japan.

The Soviet Union has no diplomatic relations with South Korea. After the surrender of Japan in 1945, the Russians occupied the northern part of the Korean peninsula and the Americans moved into the south. This division was sealed by the Korean War (1950-53), in which the Russians and Chinese supported the North Koreans under Kim Il-sung and the Americans came to the rescue of the South Koreans. For the past 33 years the two sides have been locked in classic Cold War antagonism on both sides of the 38th Parallel.

Today, the United States has nearly 40,000 soldiers and airmen in South Korea, while the Soviet Union has been the main supplier of weaponry to the North Koreans.

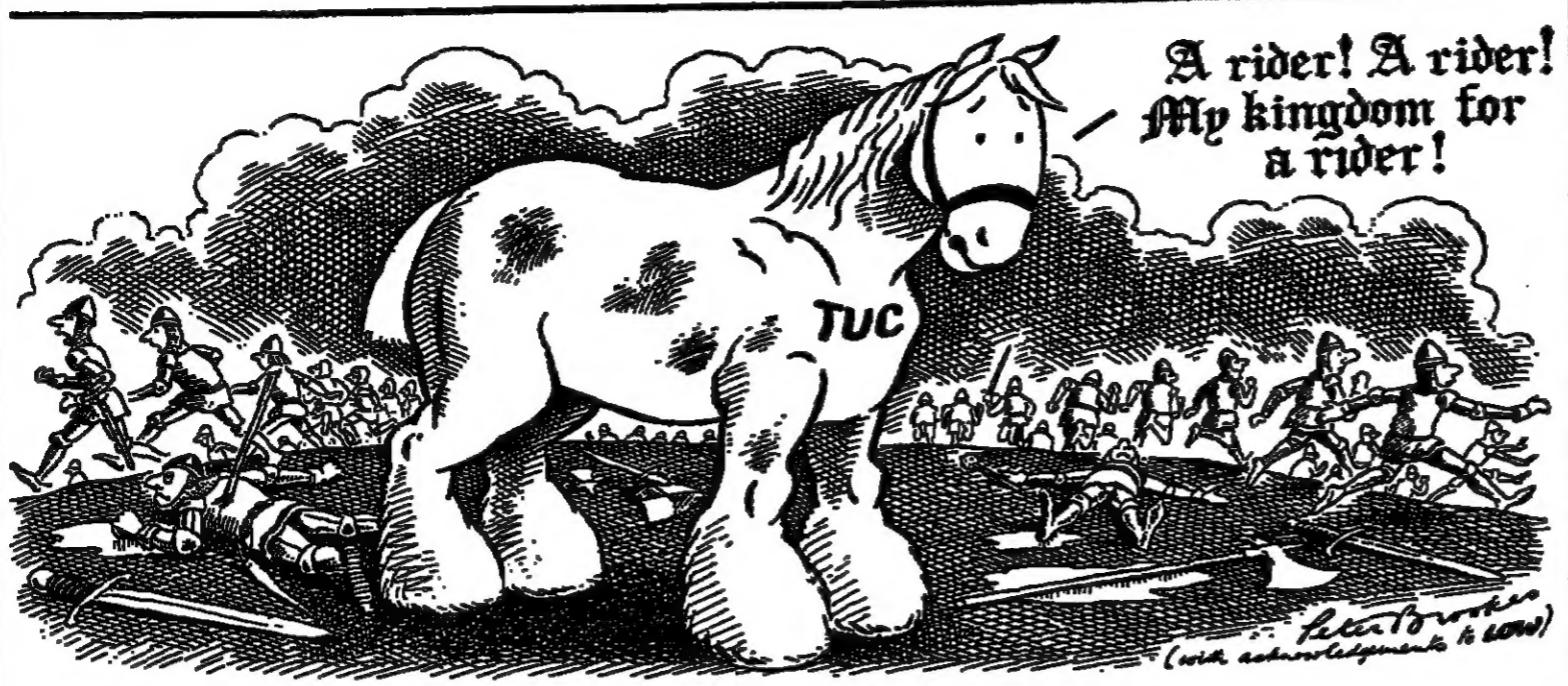
In 1978 another Korean Airlines jet flew, of course, over the heavily fortified Korean Peninsula in European Russia and was forced down on a frozen lake 300 miles south of Murmansk. The fact that the Russians allowed the passengers and crew to return to South Korea, instead of sending them direct to North Korea, was seen in Seoul as *de facto* recognition by Moscow of the South Korean government.

For some years the Russians have had South Koreans to attend international conferences in the Soviet Union and there have been two recent visits by Russian officials to Seoul since last autumn. Commentators in Seoul see these visits as a warning by Moscow to North Korea not to become too heavily committed to the Chinese. Kim Il-sung has skilfully played off the two communist superpowers against each other since he came to power at the end of the Second World War. The ideological rift between Moscow and Peking has given him even greater scope for this balancing act.

As the host of the 1988 Olympic Games, South Korea is hoping that both the Soviet Union and China will send athletes to Seoul, thus paving the way for the normalization of relations between South Korea and its communist world.

Meanwhile, the tensions aroused by the fate of the South Korean airliner show how hard it is to break the web of suspicion and animosity between the Soviet Union and its East Asian neighbours.

Simon Scott Plummer
and Denis Taylor



The beginning of the end for the unions?

by Paul Routledge

cent drop and the engineering workers have lost at least 200,000 members. Their actual paying membership is down to 850,000, according to the AUEW annual return to the Government-appointed certification officer.

The public-service unions have not fared so badly. NUPE has remained practically stable over the last five years, although recent figures (until now not published) disclose it is now 697,000. NALGO is still 30,000 above its 1979 total and is embarking on aggressive counter-measures to prevent Conservative local authorities such as Birmingham City Council from undermining its membership base by ending the "check-off" system of paying union dues. The two big civil service unions have each lost just over 10 per cent of their members in the wake of Whitehall job cuts and the postal workers have experienced a similar decline.

The latest official figure for trade union membership given in the TUC General Council's report to the Blackpool congress last week is 10,510,157. This is for December 31, 1982, and the present level is certainly lower. It is difficult to calculate just how much, but judging by the TUC's own financial arithmetic the true figure is moving below 10,000,000 — and hence just below the psychologically important 50 per cent share of the working population.

Much was made of it at the time. The unions take the numbers game very seriously; as representative organizations, they consider they must. The more members they have, the more clout they believe they have; falling membership equals diminished influence.

There is also a kind of corporate self-confidence about the Labour movement. Burgeoning membership tends to make union leaders and members more bullish in their policy making. Pay claims are larger and pushed with more determination. Increased revenue from subscriptions puts unions in a stronger position to fight set-piece battles with employers. And there is a political spin-off as demands upon government become more ambitious.

The latest official figure for trade union membership given in the TUC General Council's report to the Blackpool congress last week is 10,510,157. This is for December 31, 1982, and the present level is certainly lower. It is difficult to calculate just how much, but judging by the TUC's own financial arithmetic the true figure is moving below 10,000,000 — and hence just below the psychologically important 50 per cent share of the working population.

Len Murray, the TUC General Secretary, will no doubt insist at his pre-conference briefing that the British Labour movement is still the most representative in the free world. But how much longer can it stay like that?

As the accompanying table shows, the membership decline has gone practically across the board. Most unions have suffered a drop of about 10 per cent and for some it has been more savage. The seafarers' union has been practically halved and the giant transport workers' has lost more members than its rivals ever dreamed of having. From a peak of around 230,000 touched in the late 1970s, it is now thought to be down to about 140,000.

Like the recession that has largely prompted it, the decline has gone across most industries, trades and services, although heavy industry has been hardest hit. The construction union, UCATT, has suffered a 25 per

second term of office. The key element in any free-enterprise tender for public work is lower manning, lower wage costs or virtual de-recognition of the union. Sometimes all three are proposed and a sharp fall in public-service unionization is bound to follow. Small wonder that the privatization debate is expected to be such a big issue next week.

In the nationalized industries, industrial decline has been matched by union decline. Closures and cutbacks in coal mining, the steel industry, shipyards, on the railways, at British Airways and on the bus network have all contributed to a massive reduction in public-sector unionization. And the reduction here has contributed on an even greater scale to the decline of the closed shop. State industries are traditional strongholds of union membership.

The TUC has been here before, of course, but not for a very long time. At the turn of the century, membership of unions was a bare 1,250,000. It grew

TUC membership: the falling numbers

Union	1979	1982
Transport and General Workers	2,066,000	1,503,000
Engineering workers	1,216,000	1,001,000
General and Municipal	967,000	826,000
Miners	783,000	784,000
Public Employees (NUPE)	432,000	709,000
Scientific and Technical (ASTMS)	431,000	418,000
Showworkers (USDAW)	470,000	417,000
Electricians and plumbers (EETPU)	420,000	380,000
Construction workers (UCATT)	348,000	261,000
Miners (NUM)	248,000	262,000
Teachers (NUT)	224,000	198,000
Civil and Public Services Association	200,000	198,000
Postal workers (UCW)	201,000	172,000
White collar engineering (TASS)	180,000	150,000
Flight Engineers (FEU)	132,000	125,000
Barclays	130,000	118,000
Society of Civil and Public Servants	105,000	98,000
Iron and Steel workers (SITC)	104,000	95,000
Seamen (NUS)	47,000	47,000

All figures to market research

rapidly during the First World War to 4,500,000, and then steadily to 6,000,000 in 1920. The slump then drove membership down to a low of 3,300,000 in 1934. But after 1937, the annual tally of card-holders rose practically without exception for 43 years before reaching its peak.

Since then, it has declined steadily and it would be a rash man who would predict when bottom will be touched this time. There are some bright spots on the TUC's horizon. The Bank Workers' union, BIU, has gone into the organized City sector with slick publicity that has paid off — although new technology could reverse those gains. Unions like the National Graphical Association with a pre-entry closed shop and substantial friendly society benefits have kept their members, but at a cost of terrific financial strain.

Set against this picture are the new technology firms — the so-called "sunrise" industries — which have largely sprung up over the last five years when the public image of the Labour movement has been unsympathetic. They are proving impervious to the charms of the black vote and the branch meeting. One computer software company in the Home Counties of which I have personal knowledge was recently taken over by a rival. The employees were at a loss to know how to defend their interests, but suggestions that they "bring in the union" met with overwhelming opposition.

This experience was not derived solely from the admittedly widespread fear of unemployment from "upsetting the boss". In some new industries and services where there is no tradition of trade unionism, these hard times in which to start one. The unions argue that few jobs are involved in the sunrise sector, and that it would make little difference if they could all be gathered into the family.

The trade union movement in Britain will probably always be strong in numbers, but we are probably witnessing the start of its long-term decline through a mixture of economic, political and social factors. The TUC desperately wants to be listened to, and that consuming passion is the underlying theme of next week's debate. And as its espousal of the numbers game for the distribution of seats on the ruling National Executive Council has demonstrated, the TUC is putting its faith in the uncertain magic of size rather than the strategic value of industrial workers well-placed to exploit their power.

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The past criticism judges for not interpreting the spirit of the law and said it would be a travesty of justice if the government had to be bound by legal technicalities. In an address to law students at the University of Zimbabwe in March he said: "Blind acceptance of the rule of law can only frustrate our efforts to radically change our society of the injustices of the colonial past."

Clearly though, the government's stated attitude to the rule of law disturbs whites and may bring it into conflict with a judiciary which has shown absolutely no indication of bending to Dr Ushewokunze's criticisms.

The Home Affairs Minister has in the past criticized judges for not interpreting the spirit of the law and said it would be a travesty of justice if the government had to be bound by legal technicalities. In an address to law students at the University of Zimbabwe in March he said: "Blind acceptance of the rule of law can only frustrate our efforts to radically change our society of the injustices of the colonial past."

The exodus of whites predicted at independence has never materialized and emigration figures show a steady trickle of between 1,000 and 1,800 (race is not specified in the figures but the vast majority are whites) leaving every month. The most recent figures,

Stephen Taylor

David Watt

Britain, still a misfit in the modern world

According to the latest Gallup, West Germany is now regarded as Britain's best friend in Europe. An opinion poll published in last week's *Sunday Telegraph* finds that 27 per cent of the British public put Germany first, with France second at 9 per cent and Holland third, with 8 per cent. Fifteen years ago, however, Germany was only 12 per cent, though it was still in the top three. "Don't know," on the other hand, has risen from about 30 per cent to a resounding 50 per cent.

Neither under Adenauer nor any of his successors have the Germans ever been likely to sacrifice the America alliance to their relations with France. It is this entirely justified perception which lies, no doubt, in an obscure and half-articulated form, at the root of the Gallup poll's main finding.

Whether all this amounts to "friendship" is quite another matter. Many writers and statesmen of the hard-boiled school have argued that the whole friendship metaphor, like all analogies between states and individuals, is dangerously misleading if not wholly inadmissible. If Burke was right in talking about the impossibility of drawing up the indictment of a whole nation, why should the designation of a whole country as a "friend" make any more sense?

The answer is that there is real meaning to the word, provided that in general the British have straightforward thoughts rather narrow views on which side their international friends are important enough. But a combination of long, settled peace, close cooperation and cultural sympathy do produce a genuine ease of relationship between countries and ensure, as in marriage, that allowances are made and faults forgiven that would otherwise cause disruption.

I doubt whether Germany quite qualifies under this heading if she can only muster 27 per cent of the British to pronounce the magic word "friend", and this is our own fault more than anyone else's. The Gallup poll contains some other startling figures besides the main ones. People now travel hugely and 34 per cent of the poll's respondents have



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

ABUSE OF LAW IN HARARE

The acquittal of six air force officers by a Harare court on Tuesday showed that the independence and fearlessness of the Zimbabwe judiciary most admirably survives; their immediate redetention was, a disgraceful demonstration of the contempt for human rights and legality that the government of Mr Robert Mugabe is increasingly showing.

There are rare occasions when an executive might be justified in continuing to detain acquitted men: at times of severe civil emergency, for instance, and if there is a real and evident danger that the detainees might instigate disorder if they were at liberty. This is emphatically not the position in the present case. The air force officers are being detained not as a reasonable precaution, but in punishment for crimes of which they have been acquitted. Mr Mugabe's government substitutes its will for the courts and is scornful of "legal technicalities". Thus the protection all Zimbabwean citizens deserve from arbitrary arrest and imprisonment without due process disappears; liberty depends on the whim of an individual.

The acquittal presented Mr Mugabe with three opportunities. He could have shown his support for an independent judiciary; the judge was an African who had played a leading part in the independence struggle. Secondly, he could have expressed abhorrence at the torture of suspects by the police, the reality of which was accepted by the judge.

Thirdly, he could have made

some conciliatory gesture towards the white population. He did none of these things.

Mr Mugabe brought Zimbabwe to independence in 1979 amid great good will. He made reassuring speeches about pragmatism (in spite of his Marxism), reconciliation and working with all sections of the population – he included whites and followers of Mr Joshua Nkomo in his cabinet – and respect for the law. There has since been a falling-off, and a formidable indictment can now be mounted against his government.

As well as the torture of suspects and detention without trial (nine other acquitted men have been redetained in addition to the air force officers, including six supporters of Mr Nkomo – another opportunity for reconciliation lost); there must be added the atrocities committed by Mr Mugabe's Shona-speaking Fifth Brigade in its action against opponents of the government in Matabeleland early this year. Mr Mugabe promised an inquiry into this, but no report has emerged and no one has been punished. He has also moved against the press, expelling a foreign correspondent and forbidding his own self-censoring press from publishing material relating to terrorism or anti-insurgency operations by his army.

Mr Mugabe is, of course, beset by difficulties. The existence of an unabashedly prejudiced regime in South Africa is a provocation; and there is no doubt that South Africa has encouraged active sabotage in Zimbabwe. Failure of the charges

TRAINING IS THE THING

September 1 was a bench mark in British social policy. It was vesting day for the Youth Training Scheme, an ambitious measure which fails only a little way short of the conservation of an entire age cohort. Comparable in its scope to raising the school-leaving age, the scheme guarantees for each 16-year-old not already in full-time work or education a place on a state-sponsored programme of training and work experience. At the least this is the latest and biggest attempt by Mrs Thatcher's Government to rescue a generation of British youth from aimless unemployment. At best here are the beginnings of a long-term effort to raise the quality and skills of the labour force to the levels of our trading competitors.

The scale of the scheme is striking. The Manpower Services Commission aims for 460,000 places by Christmas, involving at least 5,000 employers and costing £1 billion a year. In the past big initiatives in social policy have often disappointed; there is some understandable scepticism about the effect of a plan on this scale. Certainly there will be in some parts of the country (what even friends of the scheme concede to be) a shambles. Doubt remains about the take-up of places; by the end of July only 46,000 young people had signed on, but now with the end of the holidays momentum will surely gather. Employers public and private have made impressive efforts in organizing placements. However, certain trade unions continue to show a callous lack of responsibility in their refusal to cooperate in providing opportunities for young people in work at a manageable cost to the public funds.

Judgment on the YTS must of course be deferred: the scheme has not deserved the early drizzle of carping it has had – negative

complaint of the sort that often greets any plan of social reform that is patently less than perfect. By September next it will be possible to reach a conclusion. One stark – but reasonable – test will be the number of young people who at the end of their training and work experience remain unemployed. We must be realistic if that figure is more than one third then YTS will have disappointed. But it will not have failed if at the end of their training the young people have acquired the wherewithal to make their way in the harsh climate of the 1980s. The scheme will not necessarily lead to jobs; it ought to stimulate some trainees to return to college or continue vocational training. The Manpower Services Commission has before it a hefty task of inspection, ensuring that employers (especially small businesses) do train and not abuse the scheme as a source of cheap labour.

Mr Norman Tebbit has decided that reluctant trainees may have to be goaded. Just like the unemployed who refuse "reasonable" job offers, the trainees face a partial loss of social security benefits if they persist in rejecting placements. Trainees are to be paid £25 a week, substantially above the basic benefit payable to an unemployed 16-year-old living with his parents; recusants will lose 40 per cent of their benefit for a salaried six weeks. But YTS trainees are not yet Mr Tebbit's equivalent of the Bevin Boys – young men conscripted during the Second World War for work in the mines on the orders of Mr Ernest Bevin the Minister of Labour. The penalty element is fair only as long as designated careers officers ensure a range of choice among placements.

The crude political impulse behind this major act of collective provision costing such a large sum of public money is thus sat upon.

Lost for words

From Miss Marghanita Laski

Sir, In his letter to you of August 19, Mr Denis Mahon quotes the Conservative manifesto (but it could have been any other recent public statement of noble aims) on the wish to encourage support for the arts and the heritage.

The Church's rules on abstemiae are actually exactly those under which we have been living since Paul VI promulgated his *Motu proprio*, *Puenitentia*, on February 17, 1966. The 1983 code has, in effect, codified this legislation. According to canon 6 n.2 of the new code this means the present local disposition will remain in force unless specifically withdrawn, because the new code revokes old legislation, universal or particular, that is contrary to its prescriptions.

The bishops, therefore, are free to let the present situation continue if they wish; equally, they are free to introduce new regulations if they feel circumstances have changed from the time of the promulgation of *Puenitentia*.

Yours faithfully,
GERARD Mc KAY
Roman Catholic Scottish National
Chairman
22 Woodrow Road
Glasgow
August 23.

A black moment in Zimbabwe

From Mr Humphry Berkeley

Sir, I have been in favour of black majority rule in Rhodesia ever since I first visited that country and met both Mr Mugabe and Mr Nkomo, in 1958.

I was prohibited from entering Rhodesia by Mr Ian Smith after his illegal declaration of independence in November, 1965. I first re-visited Zimbabwe when Mr Mugabe, as Prime Minister, lifted the prohibition order in April, 1980. I held no brief for Mr Smith in 1965 and I have no brief for him now.

The Zimbabwe which I wished to see was a democratic country with no racial or tribal discrimination and no arbitrary actions on the part of the state contrary to the concept of natural justice.

I find it appalling that six white air force officers should have been tortured in prison in Zimbabwe and then found innocent by a black Zimbabwean judge, whom I have known for many years, and then released.

The flight of whites from Zimbabwe would be accelerated, to the economic detriment of the country. There would also be a drying-up of aid from overseas. It may be a failure of sympathy, though a natural one, on the part of the British to react more strongly to the redetention of white air force officers than they did to the redetention of Nkomo followers, but the condemnation applies to all such cases. The British government will meet strong opposition at home to continuing military and developmental aid to Zimbabwe unless the detention is countermanded.

Mr Mugabe has intentions to move eventually towards a one-party state. Hopes that this might be accomplished with due regard for human rights and the right to dissent are fading. Zimbabwe looks like becoming an increasingly harsh and isolated place.

It is essential to start by grasping the paradox that a conventional attack of the kind your contributor described would be more totally genocidal for the victim than a nuclear attack and would offer an enemy the bonus of being able to occupy the ground thereafter. We have seen many times now that a conventional attack which cannot be defended by conventional means tends to isolate the victim. So we have a clear example where threat of nuclear response would be the only defence and where that could only be convincing if the victim himself possessed that capability.

The first point is, therefore, that we must keep up an independently targeted and controlled nuclear force, preferably based offshore. Let's make no pretence about it having any strategic significance in the nuclear context; it's simply the sting in our tail. That should come cheaper and, incidentally, not be a factor at Geneva.

The second point, the re-think on the Rhine hopefully opening a new look towards the open sea (in three

Trade sanctions as a bar to learning

From Mr John Gillard Watson

Sir, Notification was recently received here that the *Bulletin of the International Statistical Institute*, vol. 49, "Proceedings of the 43rd Session of the Institute", held at Buenos Aires in December, 1981, had been seized by the Customs.

This was on the grounds that importation was forbidden, but an application could be made for an import licence.

The application was duly made to the Department of Trade and Industry, but was refused by the International Trade Policy Division. The reason given was that the ban on Argentine imports imposed on April 7, 1982, would remain "until such time as we can bring Argentina to restore normal trade relations with the United Kingdom." It was argued that "any shift in our position would send entirely the wrong signals to the Argentines and hinder our efforts to achieve a mutual lifting of sanctions."

Since then notification has also been received that five volumes of *Comercio Exterior Argentino 1979*, published by the Instituto de Estadística y Censos, have been seized similarly. Both sets of items are liable to forfeiture and legal proceedings will be taken for the condemnation of the goods as forfeited if we venture to make a claim that they are not liable.

Yours faithfully
HUMPHRY BERKELEY,
Three Pages Yard, Chiswick, W4.
September 1.

I do not question the object of the Government in maintaining trade

sanctions, but is it not obvious that so far as the items cited are concerned it is this country, and not Argentina, which is damaged?

It cannot be maintained that to forbid scholars access to the proceedings of the ISI session of two years ago and to forbid not only scholars but business firms access to the trade returns of four years ago can in any way promote our interests, nor could an intelligent interpretation of the embargo, allowing the import of material of benefit to this country, be in any way a source of aid and comfort to the enemy. Both items are sent free of charge.

The application was duly made to the Department of Trade and Industry, but was refused by the International Trade Policy Division.

I am sure that these are in this country many people, like myself, who greatly deplore recent events in Zimbabwe and who hope that our belief that Zimbabwe could become the kind of country which I have described above was not a vain one.

Yours faithfully
JOHN GILLARD WATSON,

Librarian
Institute of Economics and Statistics

St Cross Building, Manor Road, Oxford.

August 27.

Spending in the public eye

From Mr David J. Critchley

Sir, You report (August 24) that the Treasury paper on the financing of public spending has been "prepared under conditions of extreme confidentiality". Even the spending departments have been kept at arm's length. Does it contain something that you and I should not know? Enough! Publish the report forthwith. Nail copies to church doors and town halls. Give them away in post offices. Then at least we will be able to come to a considered judgment on the matter.

But what are we promised? "A limited exercise in guided public debate." What boundless contempt for our ability to make up our own minds!

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
DAVID J. CRITCHLEY,
C/o du Comité,
1202 Genève,
Switzerland.
August 23.

Body and mind

From Dr R. Littlewood

Sir, As both an anthropologist and a psychiatrist, I have been observing with some interest your focus on "holistic" medicine, a concept of therapy which aims to heal the whole individual in his psychological and social context, as opposed to the conventional fragmentation of the western patient into his constituent functions and dysfunctions.

This aim seems to be associated with the rather vacuous and uninformed assumption that non-western treatments such as traditional Chinese medicine always heal "body, mind and spirit" (August 18). Surely all the healing systems, biomedical or traditional, are holistic in that any specific technique only derives its meaning within the context of certain assumptions about man's nature and human society.

Traditional medical interventions in the non-industrialized world are frequently purely physical and often startlingly arbitrary and brief. Chinese medicine may treat disharmony between parents and children by simple moxibustion – burning paper scrolls on the body of the putative patient; no support or interpretations on the part of the healer and complete passivity on the part of the client.

Thanks to the attitude of our medical mandarins, alternative medicine is essentially private medicine and its merits are identical with the supposed attractions of private treatment – an intimate and empathetic consultation conducted in a leisurely and congenial atmosphere. Curiously, the sudden awareness of the "alternative" approach coincides with the systematic dismantling of our health services.

The discovery that the cause of civil violence is apparently refined sugar (August 5) also coincides with our refusal to allocate resources to the penal system. Both instances are characterized by a feeling that we are estranged from some hypothetical state of nature by artificial attempts to control our own destinies.

Perhaps it would not be too fanciful to suggest that current interest in the "holistic" approach is merely the reflection which monetarism casts on medicine?

Yours etc.
ROLAND LITTLEWOOD,
Department of Psychiatry,
Guy's Hospital,
St Thomas Street, SE1.
August 19.

Private line

From Mr James Pretty

Sir, Your leading article on national monopolies (August 22) mentions prices, quality of service and profitability as functions of a regulatory authority. Quality of service can include many things, but one aspect, availability, surely needs special mention.

Are people in small isolated communities, who may already have lost their village shop (and with it the post office) and bus service to lose their telephone kiosk also, because it is unprofitable?

Alternatively, the regulatory authority will need power to insist in detail on the maintenance of several thousand of these amenities. More likely, perhaps, the Government will pass the buck and require local authorities to subsidise private Telecom whenever it claims that a local service is unprofitable, and then of course some other amenity will be cut.

If a public service industry is nationalised, whatever the disadvantages, it can pursue its proper objective of providing a public service, which under private ownership must remain secondary to the amassing of profits.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES PRETTY,
24 Merton Road,
Winton,
Tiverton,
Norfolk.
August 22.

Breakfast fare

From Mr William Grandy

Sir, Unlike Mr N. A. Oppenheim (August 31) I found your reference to Sir William Wallace being hanged, beheaded, disembowelled and quartered most appropriate.

I was eating a kipper for breakfast. Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM GRANDY,
16 Settrington Road, SW6.
August 31.

From Mr Callum Beaton

Sir, Mr N. A. Oppenheim's letter spoiled my lunch!
Yours faithfully,
CALLUM BEATON,
Wood Edge,
42 Crooks Hill Road,
Meade Vale, Reigate,
Surrey.
August 31.

Riches of the land

From Miss A. M. Burrell and Dr Berkeley Hill

Sir, In his letter defending the record of British agriculture (August 9) the Deputy President of the National Farmers' Union quotes an average annual rise in retail food prices of only 9.5 per cent for the period 1977-82, a fall in real terms. But choose a less unusual year, free from the aftermath of a major drought, as base year, and the picture changes.

Cruise missiles are currently very much in the minds of those who are disatisfied. But on a lighter note did not an Assembly of fairly recent years resolve that all public transport should be free? This would have put us far ahead of Mr Ken Livingstone, but would even its sponsors have wanted it to go into an election manifesto?

Yours etc,
R. E. WRAITH,
45 Ventress Farm Court,
Cherry Hinton Road,
Cambridge.

behind agricultural support. From a broader perspective, it is clear that Community agriculture is too large and produces too much food at the price levels set under the CAP and that these prices cause consumers to pay more than they would in an unsupported market.

One indicator that EEC agriculture is too large is that the resource cost (excluding environmental and amenity costs) of surplus food production is greater than its economic value on world markets.

Opportunities to solve this surplus problem in the most obvious way, by lowering support prices, are blocked because of the assumption that, without such support, farmers' incomes would be unacceptably low.

While in certain Continental countries there may be grounds for this view, in the United Kingdom it is more difficult to demonstrate that widespread poverty among farmers would result (although the Low Pay Unit has shown that it is currently a reality for some farm workers).

On the other hand, from a wealth standpoint, farmers who own land are at the moment among the best-



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
August 31: Mrs John Dugdale has succeeded Lady Abel Smith as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

The Queen will open St Bartholomew's Church Centre, Farnham Edwardian Museum at East Ham on December 14.

The Duke of Edinburgh will give a reception for the board of American Express and American Express International Banking Corporation at St James's Palace on November 19.

The Prince of Wales, President of the Council for National Awards, will attend an awards ceremony in Edinburgh on November 23.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. Beecham and Miss P. A. Hammerson
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of the late Mr and Mrs Simon Bischofheim, and Patricia Ann, daughter of Mrs Sue Hammerson and the late Lewis W. Hammerson.

Mr D. A. Bowes and Miss J. H. Powell
The engagement is announced between Alan, elder son of Mr and Mrs D. E. Bowes, of Llandaff, and Jennifer Helen, younger daughter of Mr J. E. Powell MP, and Mrs Powell.

Mr M. G. Bromley-Martin and Miss A. F. Birley
The engagement is announced between Michael, younger son of Captain and Mrs David Bromley-Martin, of Bosham, West Sussex, and Anna, daughter of Major Peter Birley, of Hyde Crook, Dorchester, and the late Mrs M. A. Birley.

Mr R. A. Everett and Miss A. H. Webber
The engagement is announced between Brian, younger son of Wing Commander and Mrs Stuart Everett, of Longsore, Pritchard Copse, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, and Anne, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Watson, of Droylsden, Greater Manchester.

Mr G. R. F. Kyteston and Miss G. S. M. Blaney
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The protection from infections conferred on babies while they are breast-fed, and for some time after they have been weaned, is well recognized. Now a group of scientists has identified a specific antibody in breast milk that protects infants against a specific disease, but it does not prevent their becoming carriers of the infection.

The finding was made for cholera, which kills about five million people a year in developing countries, mostly children under the age of five. The discovery has important implications for immunization programmes because doctors are examining the possibility of deliberately increasing in lactating women, in areas of risk, the level of protective antibodies.

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The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment and The Royal Regiment of Wales (4th/41st Foot), visited Headquarters, The Prince of Wales's Division at Lichfield on November 25.

Princess Anne will attend a reception to launch the Charing Cross Medical Research Centre Appeal at St James's Palace on December 8.

The Prince of Wales will visit the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Committee project in Mid Glamorgan on November 21.

The Prince of Wales, president, International Council of United World Colleges, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, will visit Atlantic College at St Donat's on November 22.

Princess Alexandra will visit London Docklands to open the Enterprise Zone roads and the new Asda supermarket on the Isle of Dogs and at Beckton on September 22.

Mr A. G. Macleish and Dr K. S. M. Bryson
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs G. F. Macleish, of Larchfield, Wilton Lane, Jordans, Buckinghamshire, and Kirsty, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. Bryson, of Beith, Ayrshire.

Mr A. R. Pates and Miss C. D. Lang
The engagement is announced between Anthony, younger son of Mr and Mrs Austin Pates, of Wimborne, Dorset, and Diana, younger daughter of Mrs Mary Lang and the late Mr David Lang, of Plymstock, Devon.

Mr P. A. R. Wetherell and Miss E. Marge
The engagement is announced between Simon Staniford, BSC (Hons), son of Mr and Mrs Leon Sterling, of Hampshire Garden Suburb, and Edwina, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Marge, of St John's Wood.

Mr P. A. R. Wetherell and Miss E. M. Alice
The engagement is announced between Peter, only son of Mr Ian Wetherell, of Javea, Spain, and Mrs June Wetherell, of 9 Queen's Elm Square, London SW3, and Belinda, only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Prichard-Barrett of Keeley Farm, Kelsale, Saxmundham, Suffolk.

Mr A. E. White and Miss F. E. Alice
The engagement is announced between Keith, only son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs K. G. White, of SHAFÉ, Belgium, and Fiona Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Captain and Mrs J. Allen of Camari, Surrey.

Mr S. E. Wood and Miss C. M. Wales
The engagement is announced between Simon, only son of Mr and Mrs Walter S. Wood, of Felton, Northumberland, and Catherine, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Margaret Boyle, and Miss Dawn Elizabeth Walker, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Cyril Walker.

Mr J. Hayter and the Hon Mrs E. Guest
The marriage took place on Tuesday, August 30, quietly in London between Mr John Hayter and the Hon Mrs Emma Guest.

Mr N. L. Boyle and Miss D. E. Walker
The marriage took place on August 27 at St James's Church, Merton, of Mr Nigel Leslie Boyle, only son of the late Mr Leslie Boyle and Mrs Margaret Boyle, and Miss Dawn Elizabeth Walker, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Cyril Walker.

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THE ARTS

Cinema

A great showman, and never mind the message

The Leopard (PG)
Gate Notting Hill

The Twilight Zone (15)
Warner West End; ABC
Shaftesbury Avenue;
Studio Oxford Street

Koyaanisqatsi (U)
Lumière

The misadventures of Luchino Visconti's *The Leopard*, and the reasons why it has taken 20 years to arrive in London in its authentic state, were described by Geoff Brown on this page yesterday. Even now it is not quite original, for it was shot in 70mm Technirama; but if they have not quite recaptured the visual brilliance some of us remember from the 1963 Cannes Festival, where it won the Palme d'Or, the Technicolor laboratories have still done pretty well in restoring the marvels of Giuseppe Rotunno's photography.

In other respects, far from dating, the film actually looks better than it did on its first appearance. It may be that there is simply nothing of equal stature about at the moment for comparison (the film suggests incidentally what poor Cimino, with many more millions but not a fraction of Visconti's flair, was trying for in *Heaven's Gate*). It may be too that in the intervening years we have adjusted our views of Visconti. We have ceased to trouble our aesthetic conscience about whether or not he was a great artist with a big humanist message to be read, and have settled for the fact that he was a great showman, entertainer, story-teller and *metsye-* en-scene.

He was a highly intelligent adapter, too. The script, written with a team including his regular collaboration Suso Cecchi d'Amico, is a very satisfying reading of Lampedusa's novel, turning words into images and moods. The final ballroom scene, an hour-long display of marvellous visual bravura, is a clever cinematic equivalent to the Prince's long soliloquy which ends the book.

The story is set in Sicily at the period of the Risorgimento. Don Fabrizio, Prince of Salina (Burt Lancaster), is a survivor of a dying aristocratic race. He is at once fighting to prolong the reign of his clan and class, and mourning its extinction. Everywhere he sees decay, not just in the self-contained poverty of the country and in the old order, but in the revolution itself. The old regime finds accommodations with the new; the revolutionaries become the new bourgeois.



Visual bravura of Rotunno's restored photography in *The Leopard*

The Prince himself negotiates the marriage of his nephew Tancredi (Alain Delon) to the daughter of a rich parvenu and political opportunist (Paolo Stoppa), "without prestige, but with power, which is more important". The Prince himself perceives the contrast between the girl's peasant blemishes and the refined decadence of his own people. "We were the lions and the leopards. The jackals and hyenas will take our place. But we all, the lions, leopards, jackals and sheep, think we are the salt of the earth."

The irony of Visconti's treatment comes from his recognition that the Prince's melancholy is not an isolated and temporary emotion of history. It is a continuing problem. Each generation in turn must find itself swept from the present to the past, losing its grip on time.

Certainly Visconti himself shares the Prince's bitter-sweet nostalgia. He uses his Technirama screen to record the life of that lost era in fascinated detail: the

family prayers in the great house, and the handkerchief which the Prince meticulously lays to kneel on; the things these people wore and ate; their beds, their sports, their manners. The images are richly evocative: the cortège of sombre carriages taking the family over the dusty brown landscape on the seasonal migration which even civil war cannot interrupt; the vista of worshippers in the great cathedral and beyond, the open door with carriages passing in the raw sunlight; the storeroom with all the chamber pots of a princely home ("A house where you know all the rooms is not worth living in"); the cloud of dust stirred up by a carriage as a girl runs through a deserted apartment.

It might be a museum; but Visconti gives it his characteristic theatrical vitality. The scene is in constant movement, propelled by a determined, energetic choreography. Nino Rota's music, inclining to a pastiche of Verdi (there is a waltz which is actually claimed to be an unpublished Verdi

composition), provides an almost uninterrupted commentary. It is intended as a compliment to the film to say that much of it (certainly Delon's young prince) has the look of operetta, and that you half expect the players at dramatic moments to burst into song.

With all the bravura and sensual delights the film is immensely enjoyable. All that date is the sight of a sturdy cast still so young: Burt Lancaster, improvidently dubbed into Italian; Alain Delon; a volupitous Claudia Cardinale; and a positively infant Pierre Clementi, as the Prince's young son.

The *Twilight Zone*, which is brand new, actually looks more dated, because of its origins in twenty-year-old nostalgia. It is a tribute to Rod Serling's popular television series of the early Sixties, with four separate episodes, each by a different director.

Two of the episodes are taken from old *Twilight Zone* television scripts;

significantly the one that is original to

the film, written by its director John

Landis, is the least successful. The initial idea (suggested by a *Twilight Zone* episode, *A Quality of Mercy*) is good, but it never actually arrives at a dramatic conclusion. Vic Morrow plays a loud-mouthed, middle-aged racist, who finds himself transplanted into the roles of a Jew in Occupied Paris, a Negro about to be lynched by the KKK in the Deep South and a fugitive in Vietnam. To be fair, the shooting of the episode was more than unlikely. Vic Morrow and two Vietnamese children were killed in a helicopter accident. The helicopter shots have been tactfully omitted from the final film; but the incident cannot have been creatively encouraging.

Steven Spielberg contributes a whimsical tale about old people in a retirement home transformed back into childhood. George Miller, who made *Mad Max*, directs a messy story about a man who is the only passenger on an aircraft to see a geyser on the wing.

The most ingenious episode, directed by Joe Dante, is about a monstrous little boy who can have everything he wishes for except happiness, and has turned his house and adopted family into things from the world of animated cartoons that is always running, jumping and squaking on the television sets everywhere in the house. Dante and his designers are very successful in giving the place and the people the look of animated drawings, but even this episode fails to resolve itself satisfactorily. The short-story omnibus is a form that has never succeeded in the cinema: the stop-and-start build-up of one sequence after another – particularly when they are so much in the same vein as here – just seems not to work. *Twilight Zone* did better on television.

Godfrey Reggio spent seven years of loving labour making *Koyaanisqatsi*, so that there is a sense of guilty ingratitude in not feeling more enthusiastic about it. It is the sort of skilful non-narrative montage of fine photographic effects that makes of short films often from time to time. *Koyaanisqatsi*, though, is frame length. It is mainly a tribute to the cinematographer Ronald Fricke's lenses and filters and helicopters and slow-motion and time-lapse effects.

Meticulously counterpointed to the scholarly monotony of Philip Glass's music, the work is intended as "an intense and unique look at the superstructure and mechanics of modern life... [integrating] images, music and ideas". It is rather a matter of sensations more than ideas. The mushroom cloud, the spent rockets, the contrast of derelict humanity and industrial wealth, all the accusing faces (inevitable if you go around pointing 60mm lenses at people) and some rather sensible Hopi Indian prophecies do not actually add up to a significant statement on the human condition.

Koyaanisqatsi, in, it seems, a Hopi Indian word meaning "life out of balance".

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Meticulously counterpointed to the scholarly monotony of Philip Glass's music, the work is intended as "an intense and unique look at the superstructure and mechanics of modern life... [integrating] images, music and ideas". It is rather a matter of sensations more than ideas. The mushroom cloud, the spent rockets, the contrast of derelict humanity and industrial wealth, all the accusing faces (inevitable if you go around pointing 60mm lenses at people) and some rather sensible Hopi Indian prophecies do not actually add up to a significant statement on the human condition.

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**Investment
and
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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 708.6 up 1.2
 FT Gilts: 79.51 up 0.18
 FT All Shares: 451.35 up 0.99
 (Datastream estimate)
 Gains: 20,545
 Datastream USM Leaders Index: 100.26 up 0.52
 New York: Dow Jones Averages (Dated) 1212.91 down 3.25
 Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,228.35 up 38.92
 Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 955.24 down 10.70
 Amsterdam: 149.9 up 0.5
 Sydney: AO Index 706.5 up 5.2
 Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 926.80 up 12.70
 Brussels: General Index 132.20 down 0.23
 Paris: CAC Index 134.5 down 0.2
 Zurich: SKA General 267.3 up 2.7

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.4990 up 1/4 cent
 Index 85.5 up 0.3
 DM 4.0425 up 0.01
 Ff 12.1550 up 0.0425
 Yen 370 up 2.0
 Dollar Index 129.4 down 0.1
 DM 2.6940

NEW YORK LATEST
 Sterling \$1.4975
 Dollar DM 2.6855
 INTERNATIONAL
 ECUs 0.564324
 SDRs 0.699531

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
 Bank base rate 9%
 Finance houses base rate 10
 Discount market loans fixed 8%
 3 month interbank 9 1/4% - 9 1/2%
 Euro-currency rates:
 3 month dollar 10% - 10%
 3 month DM 5 1/4% - 5 1/2%
 3 month Fr 15 1/4 - 15
 US rates:
 Bank prime rate 11.00
 Fed funds 9%
 Treasury long bond 100% - 10 1/2%
 ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period July 6 to August 2, 1983 inclusive: 9.989 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
 am \$41.80 pm \$416.60
 close \$416.25-417 (\$277.50-278) up \$2
 New York latest: \$416.60 Krugerrand (per coin): \$429-430.50 (\$286-287)
 Sovereigns (new): \$88.99 (\$25.75-65)
 *Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interims: Aga, Alexander Higgs, Church and Co., Hamilton Oil Great Britain, Mellerware Int'l, Westwood Daws. Finals: Consolidated Plantations, Whitworth Electric. Economic Statistics: Car and commercial vehicle production (July - final). Unemployment and unfilled vacancies (August - Prov.). Housing starts and completions (July). House renovations (second quarter). United Kingdom official reserves (August). Capital issues and redemptions (during the month of August).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Bridgestone Processes, Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, WC2 (11.00). Cable & Wireless, Savoy Hotel, Strand, WC2 (noon). Celestion Industries, Browns Hotel, Dover Street, W1 (noon). Malleson Group, Windsor House, Southwark Road, Wythenshawe, Manchester (11.00). Shaw Carpets, Post House, Ossett, Mr. Wakefield, (noon). Stroud Riley Drummond, Bankfield Hotel, Bingley (11.30).

Meaney takes top Rank job

The Rank Organisation completed the formation of its new board of directors yesterday with the appointment of Sir Patrick Meaney as chairman. He was formerly chairman of Thomas Tilling, which was recently taken over by BT.

The current chairman, Mr Russell Evans, will step down from his £73,000-a-year job in November. His three-year service contract will be honoured, Rank said yesterday.

• Lucas Aerospace which lost a fiercely-fought contest to build a new anti-radar missile for the RAF, has been awarded a multi-million contract to build parts for its successful rival.

British Aerospace Dynamics, which won the £25m deal with its ALARM missile, has awarded the electrical division of Lucas Aerospace, at Bradford, a three-year sub-contract.

Redundancies part of new chairman's strategic plan

More job losses and yard closures warning at British Shipbuilders

**By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent**

A new long-term plan for the future of crisis-torn British Shipbuilders will be presented to the Government before Christmas, Mr J. Graham Day revealed yesterday as he took over as chairman of the state industry.

He warned, however, that the redundancy programme, involving 9,000 job losses, would continue, that more might be necessary, and that yard closures could not be ruled out.

Mr Day, a 50-year-old Canadian and former barrister, also called for a new attitude among workers — "from the managing director to the tea lady" — and much improved efficiency and productivity in the yards. Without changing attitudes "no amount of Government help or market revival will shield us from the cold blast," he said.

Mr Day was one of three nationalized industry chairmen who formally assumed their roles yesterday. Mr Robert Haslam, former deputy chairman of ICI and still chairman of Tate and Lyle, took over at British Steel from Mr Ian MacGregor who moved over to the National Coal Board in place of Sir Norman Stoddart.

In a further expected move, BSC announced that the deputy chairman, Mr Robert Shodley, had been appointed chief executive.

Mr Day's strategic plan, which will be presented to Mr Norman Lamont, the minister in charge of shipbuilding, will consider whether the BS structure and product line is appropriate in the badly depressed world market, put forward ways to close the enormous gap between British and Far East ship prices and reduce the corporation's losses.



Mr. Graham Day (left), the new British Shipbuilders' chief, with fellow nationalized industry chairmen Mr. Ian MacGregor (top right) and Mr. Robert Haslam.

The latter totalled £128m last year and while that would be less this year, said Mr Day, there was no chance of breaking even.

Sir Robert Atkinson, Mr Day's predecessor, failed to win whole-hearted support from Mr Lamont for a £200m emergency package of measures to tide over the industry until orders improve.

The Minister promised only that he would study requests for assistance on a case-by-case basis,

a response that was not greeted favourably by Sir Robert, who had also made known his opposition to the piecemeal privatization of the shipyards, a move high on the Government's de-nationalization list.

How much of Sir Robert's proposals, including an acceleration of orders from other nationalized industries and a rethink of the shipbuilding intervention fund, Mr Day will take on board is not yet clear. He said yesterday, however: "I am more than happy to take up Mr Lamont on his case-by-case basis and I look for an early opportunity to explore it. The failure to agree on how the cuts might be dealt with was partly due to timing."

Mr Day confirmed that the month-long pay freeze imposed by Mr Robert would be maintained if

he hinted that there could be considerable room for manoeuvre on negotiation deal-level incentive schemes. Improvements in pay could be gained from greater efficiency, he stated.

Mr Day, one of the youngest and — at £80,000 a year plus a performance-related bonus — the highest paid nationalized industry chairmen, is careful yesterday not to be drawn too deeply into the privatization controversy although he warned that if warship design capability was put into private hands, the BS shipyards would have to pay more.

"The main issue is the market for merchant vessels. My attention will be focused on that and the return of the shipyards to the private sector. I don't see as an issue I see myself as an experienced professional line manager not particularly hung up on any particular ideology."

Mr Day, who was chief executive of the BS organizing committee in 1975 but left annoyed at delays in the nationalization legislation, said: "I was unable to convince a number of people in the 1970s but I think if so of the market realities had been perceived then, we would be in a more solid position today."

He added that he agreed with Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, at "political and social considerations are for the government and I am hired as a commercial manager to make commercial decisions."

Since 1979, the UK flag merchant fleet has halved and BS has faced a world slump aggravated by allegedly gross price cutting by the South Koreans which has led to British prices being as much as 35 per cent higher.

Idle assets, page 15

City Editor's Comment

Now the invisibles come to light

The revelation yesterday that Britain last year ran a surplus on her international balance of payment nearly £1,500m higher than previously suggested serves as a pointed reminder of the pitfalls that lie in wait for the unwary, by those policy maker or speculator, who dare to put their trust in official statistics.

Instead of a current account surplus of £4,081m shown by the most recent trade figures only a week ago, the balance of payments "Pink Book" reveals a 1982 surplus of £2,428m. This, we are told, results from the discovery of £1,456m of extra invisible earnings, mostly income on investments abroad, due to "later and more complete information".

The record surplus in 1981, initially put at just over £6,000m, has by the same token, also been revised up to £6,547.

These revisions are not simply of historical interest. They imply that the trade statistics for this year, too are seriously underestimating Britain's performance on invisibles — the services provided by the City, shipping, tourism and the like — and thus giving an excessively gloomy picture of what is happening to our external balance.

Between January and July this year, we ran a deficit on visible trade of £1,260m, despite the contribution of North Sea oil, compared with a surplus of £2,120m in 1982 and more than £3,000m in 1981. Imports of manufactured goods exceeded exports for the first time since the Industrial Revolution. And this has happened at a time when Britain is experiencing its slowest recovery from recession since the war.

Given British consumers' huge appetite for imports, a quickening of economic growth would be almost certain to produce the first current account deficit since North Sea oil came on stream. With oil production expected to peak within the next couple of years the old spectre — a balance of payments constraint on growth — lies waiting in the wings.

BP profits pave the way for sale

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

A decision to sell-off a further £500m worth of the government holding in BP could be announced when Mrs Thatcher opens the new BP Magnus oilfield on September 14.

BP, which yesterday announced increased second quarter profits on £219m compared with £74m the previous quarter, said that a prospectus for the sale of further seven per cent of the Government holdings is ready for publication.

The sale would raise £500m for the Exchequer. An earlier sale by the Labour Government — raised £564m and the sale of a second tranche of the Government holding by Sir Geoffrey Howe, when he was Chancellor, raised £290m.

Yesterday's figures indicate

Cut-price coal for CEGB

By Our Financial Staff

The CEGB and NCB have also agreed that after 1985 there will be no guaranteed minimum uptake of coal, although the CEGB will use "its best endeavours" to encourage take-up to 95 per cent of its coal from the NCB.

The Central Electricity Generating Board has reached agreement with the National Coal Board which, from November this year, cuts by five million tonnes to 70 million tonnes the amount of coal the CEGB guarantees to take and limits price increases to 2.7 per cent.

The CEGB previously accepted price increases at the inflation rate, currently running at 4.1 per cent.

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Good Relations Group plc

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Share Capital

Authorised £ 600,000 Ordinary Shares of 10p each Issued and fully paid £ 505,841

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Particulars relating to Good Relations Group plc are available in the Extra Statistical Services and copies of such particulars may be obtained during the usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 30th September, 1983 from:

Laurie, Milbank & Co. Portland House, 72/73 Basinghall Street, London, EC2V 5DP.

£1,350m boost for UK trade surplus

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Britain's surplus on overseas goods and services last year was £1,350m higher than first thought according to the Government's balance of payments "Pink Book" published yesterday.

It shows that last year the country ran a balance of payments current account surplus of £5,428m, compared with an estimate of £4,081m published a week ago. The record 1981 surplus has also been revised upwards from £6,005m to £6,547m.

The revisions stem almost entirely from new estimates of invisible earnings from services such as banking, insurance, shipping and tourism. These have bumped up the invisible surplus

Flurry of buying lifts dollar

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent

Reports that the Soviet Union had shot down a South Korean airliner ironically led to a flurry of dollar buying yesterday afternoon, revitalizing the US currency which had been flagging on profit-taking.

These are likely to show the Government closer to its £1,500m balance of payments surplus force for the year as a whole than earlier figures had suggested, despite a sharp deterioration in trade terms.

The boom in overseas stocks and shares is jumping £900m in 1982, when exchange controls were abolished, to an unprecedented £70m last year.

Investors in overseas stocks

away at stock prices did not fall very far.

Thus, the market should move in the area of overhead support around the Dow 1,225 level.

General Motors was up 3/4 to

71 1/4; Monsanto up 3/4 to 112 1/2; Texaco Instrument up 1/2 to 116 1/2; NCAP up 1/2 to 120; Caterpillar up 3/4 to 397; International Business Machines up 1/2 to 118%; General Electric up 1/2 to 50%; International Paper up 1/2 to 53%; and Johnson & Johnson up 1/2 to 41 1/2.

Advancing issues gained to a 5-to-1 lead over declines. The trading pace had slowed from the proposed redevelopment of the Odhams site.

The council resolution followed criticism of the Odhams deal by Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank adviser to John Wedgwood in his attempt to fend off an £18m takeover bid by BPCC.

Kleinwort accused BPCC of exaggerating the benefit to flow from the proposed redevelopment of the Odhams site.

The strong impression given by BPCC is that this redevelopment will give rise to a substantial cash inflow to BPCC, Kleinwort said.

Mr Maxwell countered last night by stressing that he is confident that planning permission will be obtained for the redevelopment. He said an appeal would be likely if the BPCC proposal was turned down.

Mr Maxwell also said that BPCC's cash and profit forecasts are not in any way dependent upon the proceeds of the Odhams deal. He said that the major coup by BPCC was the closure of the Odhams printing plant and not the proposed redevelopment.

The BPCC plan for Wedgwood comes a week today.

• The Merchant Navy pension Fund has acquired buildings occupying two-thirds of an acre of prime land in the heart of the City in what amounts to the largest City property deal this year. The Fund is paying £23m for the freeholds of adjacent properties on Old Broad Street and Great Winchester Street.

A total of 199 managers

representing about half the firms managed in London replicated year. The bank said: "We feel that our sample has a great deal of validity and is a reasonable."

The stockbrokers James Capel and Scrimgeour Kemp-Gee are once again in first and second place with Phillips & Drew third.

Star analysts, as defined by the Continental rating system are Mr

Geoffrey Carr, Mr Nick Bubb, Mr Gerald Homer and Mr John Howett (Scrimgeour), Mr Ian McLean and Mr Philip Augar (Wood Mackenzie).

Most surprising result is that

Mr Colin Mitchell (Buckmaster and Moore) has after nine years lost the top spot among the best analysts. Mr Mitchell is on

the decline.

The bankers add: "It does mean, however, that a combination of negotiated commissions and increasing turnover outside the market could mean less commission income to support any but the best research analysts."

##

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

Reliable Cadbury unwraps 9% rise

Cadbury Schweppes
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pre-tax profit £33.5m (£30.7m)
Stated earnings 6.49p (6.0p)
Turnover £162.7m (£155.5m)
Net interim dividend 1.50p (1.40p)
Share price 105p
Dividend payable 24.10.83

Cadbury Schweppes has become one of those boringly predictable groups. Profits, with just the occasional mad fling, move forward with steady precision.

Sir Adrian Cadbury, chairman, duly unwrapped another Cadbury-style set of figures yesterday when he announced that interim pre-tax profits had advanced by a commendable 9.1 per cent or £3.5m, much in line with City expectations. So for the full year maybe £100m, against £99m seems likely.

Cadbury remain an extensive capital spending programme which should peak this year. Meanwhile, this is pushing up interest charges — £4.6m higher at £11.6m at the interim mark.

Much of the interim lift has come from America where the soft drinks to sweets company has spent heavily on acquisitions and subsequent reorganization.

American profits at the trading level more than doubled to £5.1m, with confectionery sales buoyant, but the soft side is enduring "dull" trading. However, Cadbury is establishing itself in new markets such as apple juice where it is now the brand leader.

Australia and South Africa continued to advance and in Britain, despite a bout of chocolate price cutting, margins have improved across the range and trading profits rose nearly £2m to £21.7m.

Overall interim sales progressed 16.2 per cent with trading profits (£42.5m) up 18.7 per cent. At 105p the shares are historically yielding 6.7 per cent.

RIGHTS ISSUES IN AUGUST (m)

Evoe Group	4.0
Unitech	6.6
Aurora Holdings	9.0
Group Lotus	2.3
Dicksons Group	21.1
Parkdale Holdings	1.1
Steinberg Group	4.1
Chamberlain Phipps	2.9
Midland Bank	16.0
Cambridg & General Securities	10.3
Fleming American Investment	19.8
Nesco Investment	0.9
Tate & Lyle (September)	43.0
Total	285.1

Source: Samuel Montagu

British Petroleum

British Petroleum
Half-year to 30.6.1983.
Net income £484m (£251m).
Stated earnings 16.1p (13.8p).
Turnover £15.529m (£14.218).
Net interim 7p (6.25p).
Share price 43p. Yield 4.8%.
Dividend payable 17.11.83.

If there were any doubts that BP's second-quarter results would scupper the Chancellor's plans for an early sale of another £500m-worth of shares, yesterday's interim statement has duly dispelled them. Improved profits, a higher dividend and generally rosier outlook than prevailed six months ago, all point to the likelihood that the sale will be completed as soon as possible — quite probably this month.

The figures show that the long-awaited turnaround in the troubled downstream markets for oil and chemicals is finally beginning to materialize, reflecting both the firming-up of the oil market after the March OPEC meeting and BP's own efforts to kick its business back into some form of competitive shape.

Perhaps equally significant is the fact that, after spending much of last year wholly dependent on Sohio for its profitability, the rest of the BP group is beginning to make some sort of return again.

In the last nine months reported figures, BP has made net profit of £287m, while Sohio has turned in £470m. In the first nine months of last year, by contrast, BP lost £97m, while Sohio produced £441m.

There are signs that capital spending has been controlled to help generate extra cash-flow. Spending other than on Sohio was £704m in the first half, whereas two years ago the then chairman, Sir David Steel, was talking of expenditure of £2,000m a year.

Nevertheless, there is no doubt

at Cambridge Electronic is

Although currency fluctuations have magnified the apparent improvement, oil trading on its underlying replacement basis improved from a £15m loss in the first quarter to a £123m profit in the second quarter. The German and British markets both offered improvements after the horror stories of the last two years, although this was partial offset by the profit constraints of the French product-pricing control. Chemical losses continue, but at a reduced level.

The company is on course for replacement-cost full-year profits of £900m plus, with the added spice of the Chinese and Alaskan exploration wells this autumn to keep investors happy if the sales come in the next few weeks.

Cambridge Electronic

Cambridge Electronic Industries
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pre-tax profit £3.95m (£3.12m)
Stated earnings 7.1p (5.9p)
Turnover £20.1m (£18.7m)
Net interim dividend 1.6p (1.5p)
Share price 260p. Yield 2.6%.
Dividend payable 24.10.83.

of one of the troubles with being a high flyer is that any apparent drop in altitude can cause alarm. And so it was yesterday with Cambridge Electronic Industries, the group carved out of Philips two years ago. On hearing that interim pre-tax profits have risen by a mere 27 per cent to £3.95m the market promptly marked the shares down 10p to 265p.

There is no doubt that for those expecting a huge advance from last year's full pre-tax profits of £7.5m this first six months looks disappointing. But the underlying position remains sound.

The order book is running at about 8 per cent above that of last year, and the balance sheet is healthy despite the extra turnover — up from £39.7m to £50m — absorbing more working capital and the oddity that, with a positive net cash position, falling interest rates result in lower income.

Tate & Lyle's management has achieved one of the most creditable restructurings the depression has seen in this country.

After spending about £40m on modernizing the British cane refining, still the historic heart of the business, and making as much as £70m gross from disposals, Tate has achieved significant improvements in productivity.

feeling the competitive pinch. Prices were raised by about 4 per cent across the board. And turnover excluding Elco-Trol was up by 18 per cent.

The jump from operating profits of £296,000 to £645,000 in specialist engineering owed a lot to one mysterious export order, and defence profits were more or less static at £1m.

Electronics and electrical components rose from £1.53m to £2.6m.

With the help of non-numerical information.

The three companies will carry

out long-term research with a view to products for manufacture in about 1990 or 1995, but this will not result in the manufacture of joint equipment.

The centre, due to begin work early next year, will research in the field of artificial intelligence which should enable computers to participate in decision making with the help of non-numerical information.

The three companies will

confine their own independent research programmes.

Computer link for research

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Charterhouse Group, the investment and merchant banking company, has pushed up half-year profits by 18.5 per cent to £1.1m before tax on the back of a strong performance from its development division.

Development capital benefited from further realizations in the United States where Charterhouse sold more shares in two successful investments, Dreyer Grand Ice Cream and Faco Pharmaceutical Services.

Combined with a good result in the United Kingdom, France and Canada, this division improved profits before interest from £4.23m to £9.35m in the six months to June 30.

The merchant bank also reported higher profits after transfers to secret reserves — up to £2.2m to £3.1m.

Banking and development capital between them more than made up for a flat performance from the rest of the group and the absence of profits from Charterhouse Petroleum, where the group's stake has been further reduced from 19.5 to 12.5 per

cent. The group now only includes Charterhouse Petroleum dividends into its profits.

The manufacturing division made virtually unchanged profits of £3.09m after a sharp downturn at Newage Engineers, whose overseas markets for alternators in Africa and the Middle East have turned sour.

Profits from services fell from £2.39m to £1.76m reflecting the disappointing first half from Spring Grove, the town rental company.

Helped by a much lower tax charge, earnings per share have risen by 55 per cent to 4.56 but the half-year dividend is being raised by only 5.2 per cent to 2.025p, says John Hyde, chief executive, who said the group wanted the dividend to be covered twice by profits. Last year the dividend was covered 1.8 times.

Charterhouse had a strong second half in 1982 so although profits in the first half of 1983 are £1.5m ahead, it remains cautious about the whole of this year, forecasting profits at least as good as 1982.

Charterhouse profit increases by 18.5%

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

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COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL	
Coffee	£/tonne	London	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne
Coconut	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne
Gold	\$/oz	London	\$/oz	London	\$/oz
Iron	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne
Lead	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne
Live cattle	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne
Lumber	\$/m³	London	\$/m³	London	\$/m³
Metals	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne
Oilseed	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne
Platinum	\$/oz	London	\$/oz	London	\$/oz
Rubber	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne
Sugar	£/tonne	London	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne
Tea	£/tonne	London	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne
Wheat	£/tonne	London	\$/tonne	London	\$/tonne
Wool	\$/kg	London	\$/kg	London	\$/kg
LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET		LONDON GRAIN FUTURES MARKET		WHEAT	
Gold	\$/oz	London	\$/oz	London	\$/tonne
Platinum	\$/oz	London	\$/oz	London	\$/tonne
Pt	\$/oz	London	\$/oz	London	\$/tonne
Rhodium	\$/oz	London	\$/oz	London	\$/tonne
Ruthenium	\$/oz	London	\$/oz	London	\$/tonne
Silver	\$/oz	London	\$/oz	London	\$/tonne
White gold	\$/oz	London	\$/oz	London	\$/tonne
Yellow gold	\$/oz	London	\$/oz	London	\$/tonne
Gold	295.00-295.70	170.00-171.00	112.00-112.50	112.00-112.50	112.00-112.50
Platinum	204.00-205.25	151.00-151.80	103.00-104.00	103.00-104.00	103.00-104.00
Pt	201.00-202.25	149.00-150.80	101.00-102.00	101.00-102.00	101.00-102.00
Rhodium	162.00-163.00	113.00-114.00	78.00-79.00	78.00-79.00	78.00-79.00
Ruthenium	160.00-161.00	111.00-112.00	76.00-77.00	76.00-77.00	76.00-77.00
Silver	158.00-159.00	110.00-111.00	74.00-75.00	74.00-75.00	74.00-75.00
White gold	156.00-157.00	108.00-109.00	72.00-73.00	72.00-73.00	72.00-73.00
Yellow gold	154.00-155.00	106.00-107.00	70.00-71.00	70.00-71.00	70.00-71.00
Gold	295.00-295.70	170.00-171.00	112.00-112.50	112.00-112.50	112.00-112.50
Platinum	204.00-205.25	151.00-151.80	103.00-104.00	103.00-104.00	103.00-104.00
Pt	201.00-202.25	149.00-150.80	101.00-		

Air freight

Airlines are expressing rising confidence in the growing business of delivering freight cargoes.

Arthur Reed reports

The growth of the world air freight industry, which traditionally ran at around ten per cent a year, has suffered along with the rest of the airline business from the effects of the economic recession, but now shows signs of a revival as international trade begins to pick up.

According to International Air Transport Association figures, the sector of civil aviation grew by 9.8 per cent in 1978 over 1977, by 8 per cent in 1979, by 4 per cent in 1980, by 5.1 per cent in 1981, and by only 1.1 per cent last year. Although it is too early at present to gain a complete forecast picture for 1983, individual airlines are expressing rising confidence.

British Airways, for instance, has revised the estimate of its income from air freight during the financial year 1982-83 upwards by £15m to £183m, assessing that £10m of the increase will come from improved trading conditions, and the remainder from greater internal efficiency.

The airline industry is looking to a greater contribution than in the past from freight, because its overall economic outlook remains gloomy, whether or not the recession ends. The industry has indulged in a great amount of belt-tightening, with wholesale lay-offs of staff and grounding of aircraft (one estimate is that 10 per cent of the total fleet is up for sale at present), but is still prey to forces over which it can exercise little or no control.

These include illegal discounting of both passenger fares and cargo rates, estimated to be costing the industry up to £600m a year in lost income, blocked or delayed transfers of an estimated £400m worth of earnings in both the passenger and freight sectors belonging to 40 airlines by 30 countries, mainly in Africa, rising airport landing and navigation charges, and above all charges for servicing loans, mainly for new aircraft, what Mr Kurt Hamerskjold, director general of the International Air Transport Association, referred to recently as, "the interest mountain."

Were it not for this mountain, the world's airlines could expect to move back into profitability



Cargo handling at Gatwick: revenue from freight is improving

next year by some £300m, but once interest charges of £1.225m are met, there will be a deficit of just under £1,000m.

The scope for widening the role of air freight as a contributor to the well-being of airlines remains enormous, for although it carries up to 16 per cent of tonnally of Kingdom trade in value terms, Heathrow was the "cheapest" airport in Britain in 1982, with exports and imports worth £13.54bn, with Dover second - in volume it amounts to only 0.2 per cent.

This is obviously because carriage by air does not lend itself to bulk cargo, such as coal, iron ore, steel, which will always travel surface, but also because many shippers still see air freight as an "emergencies only" method of transport for their goods.

Even with this discounting,

which is prevalent in certain areas of the world, and particularly the Far East, and a freeze on cargo rates, however, there is too much aircraft capacity chasing too few goods, air freight rates remain generally higher than surface transport, but can be beaten out when the arguments in favour of air cargo are applied - shorter warehouse time, lower breakage and pilferage rates, less packing, smaller insurance premiums, and above all, quicker delivery.

But shippers remain slow to change, as evidenced by Lufthansa, the West German airline, which is among the biggest air cargo carriers in the world, which carries 25,000 tons of cargo between Germany and the United States each year, a total equivalent to the load carried by just one container ship. Other airlines transport a further 50,000 tons of freight annually between Germany and the US - equivalent to two further such ships.

One European airline president, Jan Carlson, of Scandinavian Airlines System, sees the time when very little freight will be carried by air on short-haul services, and the space which it now occupies in the underfloor holds will be utilized to give more room for passengers' baggage. Mr Carlson has asked manufacturers to design him a new airliner along these lines.

But although beset on many sides, those who run the airlines' air-freight business still take an optimistic view of the future. Modern technology has come to their aid in recent years, with new

systems which are operated by the airlines and the containerized freight which they can swallow offering advantages of efficiency unimagined when hosts of small parcels had to be piled in the holds of smaller, narrow-bodied planes.

Ironically, the small parcel

business is now coming back strongly, with the liberalization of private post offices and courier services, particularly in Britain, but many of these parcels are hurried through by the couriers themselves, and the opportunity for increased revenues are as yet only touched by the airlines.

New technology in the form of computers which keep track of cargo items, wherever in the world they may be, which help to speed the customs process at airports, and which issue and check waybills, is also helping to make air cargo more competitive with its rival forms of transport, while keeping costs down.

Brokers and consolidators are today working far more closely with the airlines than in the past, and at some airports are linked into the computerized tracking

systems which are operated by the airlines and the customs authorities. Those running the industry are encouraged by this trend, and also by the trend to manufacturing towards high-technology goods, such as videos, stereos, computers, and television sets, which lend themselves ideally to carriage by air.

Further encouragement is gained from the growth of multinational companies, with factories in different areas of the world needing to exchange urgently parts and semi-finished products.

Air freight has an important role to play in the airline industry's painful struggle towards recovery, but the danger is that airline management will treat it as has happened in the past, as a poor relation, starving it of capital and resources in their economy drives, and favouring the more-glamorous passenger side of their business. The longer that cargo remains unfashionable, the longer it will take the airlines to move back into the black once again.

In an attempt to solve this problem, the airlines have reduced their capacity on the North Atlantic, and some have stood down their air-freight aircraft. British Airways sold its fleet of this type, reducing its total cargo capacity by 15 per cent at a stroke, and Pan American recently completed the phasing-out of its

747F fleet when it sold its last freighter to Japan Air Lines for £27m. Specialist airlines such as Flying Tigers of the United States, with more than 30 all-freight airliners, continue to fly this blue-sky, but uneconomic route, making its profits on other sections of its world network such as the Pacific basin, where higher cargo rates are holding firm.

Decommissioning in the United States is the policy introduced by President Carter under which airlines could fly virtually where, and at what fares they liked, has worsened the over-capacity problem on the North Atlantic. The policy has recently spread to Britain, where the Civil Aviation Authority is now taking a more liberal line on the licensing of air routes than in the past, although it has made no great impact so far in Europe.

As a result of all these trends, air freight is today the biggest bargain for the customer than it has ever been, with some rates lower than they were 20 years ago. In 1960, for instance, the general rate for shipments of 45kg and more between Frankfurt and New York was DM 13.40 per kilo, and is DM 13.20 today. Special bulk rates in 1960 worked out to 5.10 per kilo, and are DM 3.20 today, and with a 1,000 ton annual contract can drop to DM 2.00 and even lower.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has mounted a campaign called "fare deal" in which geographical groups of airlines agree among themselves not to discount, and have the power to levy fines against any of their number which transgress.

Across the North Atlantic, one of the world's busiest air-freight routes, there is so much spare capacity in the underfloor holds of wide-bodied passenger aircraft, in the new generation of "combi" airliners where passengers and freight are carried on the main deck, and on board all-freight aircraft like the Boeing 747F and the DC-10, that rates have been pushed down so low as to make under-the-counter cuts unrealistic.

According to Peter Campbell, marketing manager of MSA, one of the world's biggest air-freight forwarders, handling 800,000 shipments and 55,000 tons of freight in an average year, the North Atlantic experienced a 5 per cent market decline in the first quarter of 1983 compared with the same period last year. Westbound freight traffic was growing, while eastbound declined because of a strong dollar against a weak pound. The resulting falling-off of American exports meant that eastbound flights were operating with a "significant overcapacity" of cargo space.

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ECONOMICS

Are the days of discounting finally numbered?

extended to "desk-to-desk", with a rising tide of small-parcel and computer services. Even the man in the street can play, with the ability to walk into any of the larger post offices in Britain with a packet of computer print-outs or similar documents, and by using datapost - for a not-inconsiderable sum - expect it to be in the office of a colleague or a customer 3,000 miles away in the United States the following day.

British Airways will accept small parcels for delivery to major provincial centres in Britain at its shuttle check-in counters, and is only prevented from expanding the service to European cities by the inevitable problems posed by customs clearances.

British Airways, which in the 1982-83 financial year carried 161,000 tons of cargo on its passenger aircraft, has also had considerable success in recent months with a "guaranteed exports" scheme in which the airline promises shippers their money back if their goods miss the flights on which they are booked to North America, Hong Kong and South Africa.

BA and all other world airlines are constantly exploring new markets, and are prepared to manufacture competitive new tariffs once they are found. Currently, exotic fruits and vegetables are providing the industry with a growing proportion of their carryings (in BA's case it amounts to 18 per cent of all cargo) as the diet fad spreads through the Western world, and immigrants from Third-World countries demand the familiar foods of their homelands.

The shipping of groceries, flowers, chilled meats, animals on the hoof for breeding or for food, has now become routine, but the problem for the air-freight marketers remains to convince shippers that the service which they offer should be an everyday one for other classifications of goods, and not only used in exceptional cases.

Because of rapidly-rising costs of aerospace production, countries all over the world are joining together to develop and produce new aircraft types. Britain, France, West Germany, Belgium, Spain and Holland are linked in the production of the A300 and A310 European airbus, while Spain and Indonesia, France and Italy and Sweden and the United States are each collaborating on new types of commuter aircraft.

All require rapid freight links with their partners, and the cargo-carrying airlines are coming into their own with what they hope will be a lucrative and long-term new form of business.

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NEW TECHNOLOGY

The air-road battle to get there quicker

Greater use of technology – notably in the field of computerised documentation processing – holds the key to continuing development of the international air cargo industry.

Now many of the traditional advantages inherent in air freight are being increasingly eroded by competition from road transport, particularly in short-haul cargo sectors.

Even urgent freight moving between the UK and the Continent now tends to be transported by road which can often offer faster overall door-to-door transit than air, as well as lower rates.

The major problem for the air cargo industry is the time freight spends sitting on the ground both before and after actually flying. A recent report by IATA (International Air Transport Association), for instance, revealed that overall air freight spends 92 per cent of its total transportation period on the ground and only 22 per cent of the same period actually in motion.

Much of this waiting time results from delays in customs and documentation clearance. To counter this, airport authorities, airlines, freight forwarders and customs have been steadily developing improved computerised documentation processing systems.

The world leader is almost certainly the ACP80 (Air Cargo Processing in the 80s) system at London's Heathrow and Gatwick airports and recently extended to take in Manchester. Basically, it

helps streamline imports clearance through customs, speed the despatch of exports and enables users to keep track of consignments from their own premises.

Developed jointly by London's air cargo community and the National Data Processing Service, the commercial computing arm of British Telecom, ACP80 was implemented in London towards the end of 1981. It effectively replaced the successful LACES (London Airport Cargo Electronic Data Processing Scheme) system which had handled imports clearance at Heathrow since 1971 and Gatwick from 1979.

At the heart of the new system is the ACP80 bureau, run on ICL computers at British Telecom's major computer centre in Hounslow. The bureau is operated by NDPS and its tasks include:

- Handling inventory control of imports and exports for 35 airlines and transit shed operators
- Providing a link to the internal computer systems operated by six of the world's major airlines (British Airways, Transworld Airlines, Pan American, KLM, Alitalia and Flying Tigers);
- Allowing airlines and agents to report export consignments to HM Customs and Excise;
- Providing access to DEPS (Customs Departmental Entry Processing System);
- Generating export and import figures for inclusion in national trade statistics.

Customs, agents and the airlines and cargo – shed operators served by the bureau

gain access to ACP80 computers through terminals in their offices. These visual display units have high-speed printers attached which reproduce computer information on paper as required.

ACP80 uses British Telecom's packet switched data service (PSS) in which data is sent electronically in separate small blocks or packages, a system said to be simpler and more efficient than sending information in one long stream.

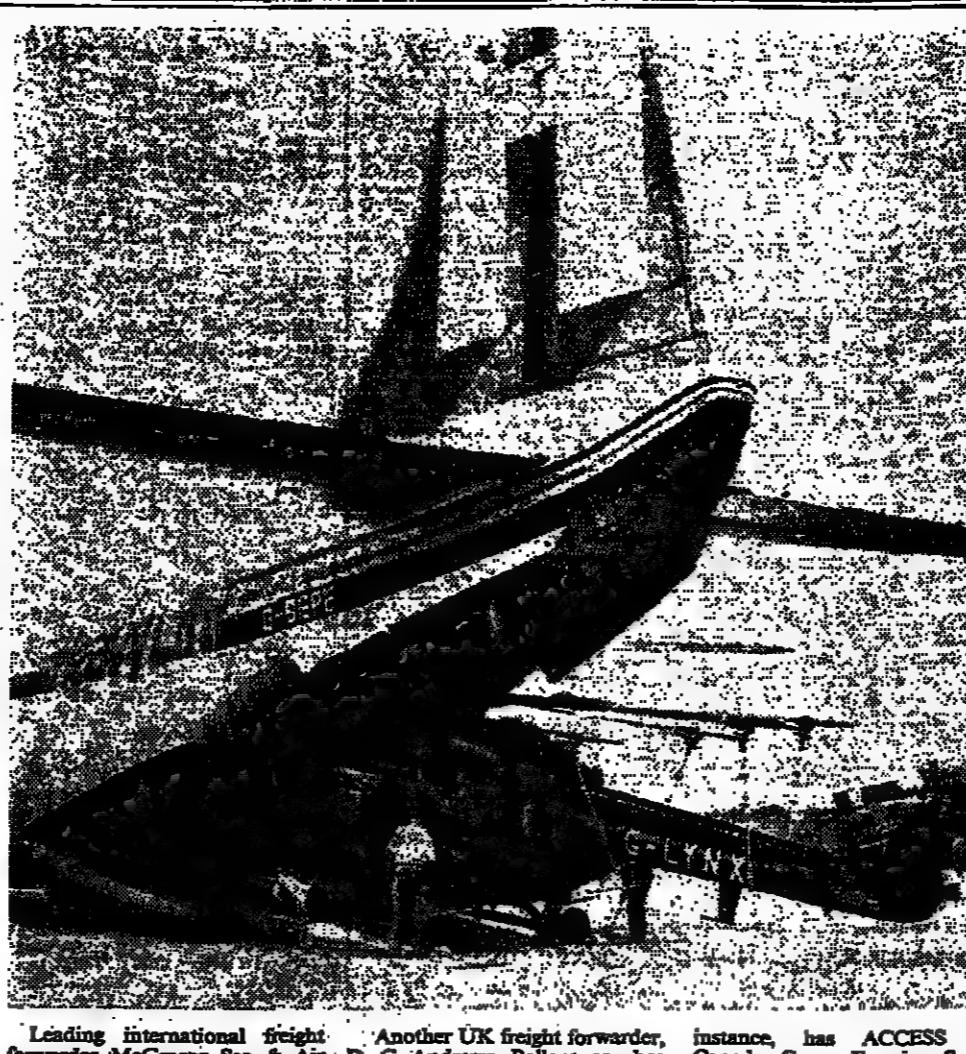
This makes it possible for the ACP80 computers to 'talk' easily and quickly with the base computers of the six major airlines.

The present contract term for ACP80 with NDPS runs to September 1986, with an option for another five years.

Among the possibilities are developments which would allow freight forwarders to interface their own in-house computers with ACP80.

Perhaps more likely is the development of ACP80-type systems at other airports around the world. The United States, Hong Kong and a number of other countries have shown considerable interest in the concept.

While ACP80 is the single most important recent development in the field of air cargo, computerisation has spread through many other areas of the industry's operations. Numerous freight forwarders and airlines have established or are in the process of establishing their own in-house systems.



Nothing too large: a Westland Lynx helicopter is 'swallowed' by a Short Belfast freighter at Stansted

limiting factor as far as cargo loads on passenger aircraft are concerned, such an increase in capacity could be quite significant in revenue terms.

Other airlines have been looking at the development of special containers to cater for specific traffic. The world's largest all-cargo carrier Flying Tigers, for example, now has a fleet of specials known as GOH (Garment on Hangars) containers to carry consignments from major fashion design centres around the world. The same airline has also recently introduced a new type of in-flight horse stall which can be converted into a standard air freight container in five minutes.

"By sliding out or folding back hinged panels, the 'AirStable' can be changed into an ordinary freight container, capable of carrying general cargo, allowing the airline to use the equipment to carry a full revenue load of freight when not being used to transport bloodstock," said a Flying Tigers spokesman.

Still on the subject of containers and ULDs (unit load devices), British Aerospace earlier this year launched a new multi-million pound container examination system (CES) designed to allow customs authorities to examine such units without unloading/unpacking or causing damage.

Airlines have also been looking at ways of developing unit load technology to boost air cargo traffic. In this context, British Airways has recently been looking at the idea of introducing "winged" pallets on its wide-bodied aircraft such as B747s and TriStars, a concept already in use with the Israeli national carrier El Al.

Winged pallets have basically normal pallets which have had two of their sides let out on hinges to increase their capacity by up to 20 per cent. Since weight tends to be the

Phillip Hastings

CARGO CENTRES

Keeping track of the goods

Old hands at British Airways who were around in the late 1960s when BEA and BOAC, now incorporated into BA, opened automated air freight centres at London's Heathrow airport, still recall with alarm the days when customers pounded the counters and demanded consignments which had apparently been swallowed by the computer for ever. Angry scenes which developed were being repeated throughout the industry at that time as airlines attempted to go too far too fast with automation, envisaging the day when machines would take over from people.

The lesson was quickly learned, although at vast expense, that air freight with its parcels of all sizes and awkward shapes, its high and low priorities, and its often highly perishable nature does not lend itself naturally to automatic handling.

Soon, much of the expensive stacking and storing machinery was being taken out to be replaced by muscle power, and a visit to the British Airways cargo centre at Heathrow today will quickly establish that one of the most important pieces of equipment for shifting air freight about the place is the forklift truck – although computers give the forklifts their instructions, and the loading of containers is automated.

This opened in early 1982 after six years of planning, followed by three and a half years of building, and although not without its initial snags, now handles with a high degree of automation some 400,000 tons of freight annually.

Some airlines have persevered to make automatic cargo handling work, one of the foremost being the West German carrier Lufthansa which, however, waited until it saw the lessons learned by others before investing the equivalent of £60m in the development of a new cargo centre at Frankfurt International airport.

Two computers lie at the heart of the Lufthansa terminal, one the existing main terminal of the airline, which accomplishes all the paper work connected with air cargo, and a second, installed specially to bring forward the goods which are stored in the warehouse. These are stored in hundreds of small trucks which run about the shed, at the command of the computer, on tracks at ceiling level. When not required, the trucks with their loads are stored in a five-storey high stacking area from which they are automatically retrieved by one of ten ETVs (elevating transfer vehicles).

Lufthansa engineers designed the freight centre, and in doing so planned for things to go wrong. Each ETV, although commanded by computer has a cab for a driver, while each of the small trucks, as well as having a "magic eye" code on its side which can be read by computer, also has a number which can be read by the human eye if the automatic system breaks down.

But while some airlines, like BA, rely on the forklift and others like Lufthansa, rely on robotics to move freight on the ground,

almost all of them agree that a high degree of computerisation is vital to document it, marshal it, and to keep track of it across the world's air routes.

KLM, the Dutch airline, uses a system called Cargol, based on a concept developed by the Italian national airline, Alitalia, and now used by a number of carriers all over the world. Data on shipments and flights is entered directly into a central memory bank, which then produces all the necessary shipping documents and manifests, and indicates when each piece of freight should be brought forward from store ready for loading on to the aircraft.

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Cargol truly comes into its own in Holland, where the export of flowers and plants by air is big business. KLM has a cargo office in the flower auction building in Aalsmeer, and the containers and pallets destined for the aircraft are loaded there before being taken to Schiphol airport by truck.

The computer is given information about the contents of each container, which it then flashes to each destination airport so that there is no delay in local distribution.

Airlines and the customs authorities at Heathrow claim that their computerised systems are even more efficient than that of the Dutch, and British Airways is currently seeking to sell parts of its system, now connected to 79 of its 132 stations world-wide, to other airlines through the International Air Transport Association.

Airlines and cargo agents at Heathrow are on a community computer, and it reports each landing of cargo to customs and excise, whose own computerised system, ACP80 can be queried for time of clearance and other essential information.

Now, most goods at Heathrow are cleared through customs within hours. Not many years ago, the "dwell time" awaiting official clearance could be anything up to five days.

The advantages of such expedited handling are many. They include making London more popular as a European transhipment port, so adding to Britain's invisible earnings and to the airline's revenues, keeping British industry moving without delays while parts or materials are awaited and reducing the amount of space at the airport required by the airlines and their agents for storing goods.

Heathrow handles around half a million tons of freight each year, while Gatwick, the second London airport, deals with 125,000 tons. It would seem sensible, therefore, to transfer some of this traffic, but in spite of its overcrowded nature – Heathrow remains the honeypot for the world's airlines.

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With swing and spin, Essex have the measure of their opponents

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire, with one second-innings wicket in hand, are 85 runs ahead of Essex.

As they should, being prospective champions, Essex are benefiting in this match from the choice of a balanced attack. On Wednesday they bowled Lancashire out with 20 runs yesterday, they went most of the way towards doing it again, this time with spin. Today, weather permitting, Essex should win comfortably.

Having been given 43 of the 46 overs which Essex bowled on the first day, Phillip and Lever not only 18 between them, AfIELD bowled 43, in which he took six for 89, and Ray East 29.

What little pace the pitch began with it has lost. Even so, there were times when it looked as though East and AfIELD might bring Essex a

Scoreboard

LANCASHIRE: First Innings 122 (K. Lever 8 for 53, P. Fawcett 6 for 54)
P. Fawcett c R. E. East b P. AfIELD
S. J. Hayes c & b P. AfIELD
F. C. Hayes fished out
S. J. Hughes c & b E. East
D. G. Gifford not out
S. M. Finch b P. AfIELD
S. T. Jeffress not out
B. D. Groom c & b P. AfIELD
M. Wadsworth b P. AfIELD
P. W. Miller not out
Extras (6 b, 12 n, 6 o) 17
Total (10 wickets) 208
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-27, 3-45, 4-104, 5-128, 6-148, 7-170, 8-193, 9-207.

G. A. Booth & P. Hayes b P. AfIELD
C. Glavin b P. AfIELD
S. R. Hartley & J. Jeffress b P. AfIELD
J. Jeffress c & b P. AfIELD
K. W. Fletcher & W. Easton
D. Pringle & S. Simmons
I. D. Pritchard & C. Jeffress
E. East b P. AfIELD
R. E. East b P. AfIELD
Extras (4 b, 12 n, 6 o) 11
Total (10 wickets) 205
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-27, 3-45, 4-104, 5-128, 6-148, 7-170, 8-193, 9-207.

BOWLING: Extras 17-0-51-2; AfIELD 17-0-51-2; Simmons 14-5-52-2; East 6-3-3-2.
Bonus points: Lancashire 4, Essex 5, Umpires: W. E. May and J. D. Collier.

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For Lancashire's fourth wicket, O'Shaneesey and Hayes added 64, coming together after Hayes had thrown his wicket away after an hour's hard work. O'Shaneesey looked a good player. Of several promising young cricketers on the Lancashire staff, he could be the best. He drove nicely, using his feet

to do so, and defended soundly. He was out just before tea, driving a return catch to East and Simmons' stumping effort at backwash.

Zaffan lasted four and a half hours before being bowled by AfIELD, hitting across the line. Hughes was next to go. After betting for two hours and a quarter, he drove East to cover point, having played so well that there was no telling his

luck. Tommies has been awarded his cap by Middlesex. Tomlins, aged 25, made his debut for the county in 1977.

• Keith Tommies has been awarded his cap by Middlesex. Tomlins, aged 25, made his debut for the county in 1977.

David East: a well constructed 61

eight previous championship innings were worth only 34 runs. Near the end of his marathon, AfIELD bowled Stanworth and then Warwick short off his bat that turned. Zaffan lasted four and a half hours before being bowled by AfIELD, hitting across the line. Hughes was next to go. After betting for two hours and a quarter, he drove East to cover point, having played so well that there was no telling his luck. Tommies has been awarded his cap by Middlesex. Tomlins, aged 25, made his debut for the county in 1977.

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TENNIS: BRITAIN'S DAVIS CUP TEAM ANNOUNCED

Hutchins offers glimpse of a new generation

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

The third day of the United States championships coincided with the announcement of Britain's Davis Cup to play Chile at Eastbourne from September 30 to October 2. Paul Hutchins, the national team manager, said: "We have got Christopher Mottram, Lloyd, Andrew Jarrett and Jeremy Bates would oppose Jaime Fillol, Richard Ascari, Pedro Rebollo and Belus Prajous. Only 16 nations compete for the trophy. The losers at Eastbourne will regroup from that select group to make up Britain's inter-zonal qualifying team."

"We have done pretty well to stay up so far," Hutchins said.

The two interesting features of the team are that Hutchins has omitted the most highly ranked player eligible, Colin Dowdeswell, and replaced him with Alan Bond, 21, to replace Richard Lewis. Dowdeswell was born at Wimborne, brought up in Rhodesia, has lived in Switzerland since 1977, and only recently became eligible for Britain.

Hutchins said Dowdeswell could have been considered for the doubles but still had strong ties with Switzerland and yet had no desire that he was fully committed to British tennis. Bates might be in the running for a single place if either Mottram or Lloyd were injured or seriously out of form.

"This team blends experience and youth," Hutchins said. "It's time to blood Jeremy Bates. I have to start thinking about the future — and looking towards Bates and Stuart Bannister." In 1977, the British team had yet to prove themselves but Britain cannot rest for much longer on players of an older generation. It should be noted, though, that Chile are still asking a good deal of their most highly ranked player, Fillol, who is 37.

Britain had an indirect interest in one of yesterday's early results at Flushing Meadow. Wendy Turnbull, of Australia, who showed

impressive authority in disposing of Sharon Walsh, 6-3, 6-3, is the most obvious hazard between Joanne Durie and a semi-final round in which one or the other will probably play Chile. Last year, six times champion, the favorite, who remains Martina Navratilova, who beat Emilia Raponi Longo (Argentina), 6-1, 6-0 in yesterday's first match in the main stadium.

Miss Durie advanced to the second round yesterday, ending with a 6-1, 6-3 win over Roslyn Fawcett, but three other British women were beaten: Anne Hobbs, Annabel Craft and Shelley Walpole. Miss Walpole, aged 17, was a break up against Mrs Lloyd, but nevertheless was beaten 6-1, 6-0. Miss Craft, also aged 17, eventually had the worse of tough, determined, match with Kimberly Shaefer, a Virginian.

Miss Hobbs came close to disqualification during her match with Sabrina Gole, a talented and tenacious Yugoslav teenager. Miss Hobbs was warned twice once for whacking a dead ball rather too

Results from Flushing Meadow

MEN'S SINGLES

FIRST ROUND: (L) 1. L. Bremm 6-4 N. Odor (NED) 6-7, 6-1, 6-4, 7-6; S. Duran (ARG) 7-5, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4; 2. J. Fillol (CHL) 6-3, 6-2, 6-4, 6-4; 3. R. Ascari (COL) 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

FIRST ROUND: 1. S. Gole (YUG) 6-1 H. Hobbs (GBR) 6-3, 6-2, 6-4; 2. J. Harrington & B. Gerten 6-1, 6-4, 6-2; 3. H. Hobbs (GBR) 6-1, 6-4, 6-2; 4. P. Bond (GBR) 6-1, 6-3, 6-4; 5. A. Hobbs (GBR) 6-1, 6-4, 6-2; 6. C. Sure (PER) 6-1, 6-4; 7. T. Tomas (ESP) 6-1, 6-4, 6-2.

The following results were received too late for inclusion in yesterday's earlier editions: Men's singles

FIRST ROUND: Whistler (SWI) 6-6 Forget (FRA) 6-4, 6-2, 6-1; J. Nyström (SWE) 6-3, 6-2, 6-1; M. Davis 7-5, 6-3, 7-6; G. Watson (GBR) 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

That certain step: Mrs Lloyd marches over Miss Walpole

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FOOTBALL: CHELSEA WELCOME JOHNSTONE AND TRIBUNAL FEE

Expensive state

By Paul Newson

Gateshead, who was promoted from the Northern Premier League last season with a record number of points, thanks to 32 victories in 42 matches, are experiencing a testing start to their first season in the Alliance Premier League.

The two main differences between the Alliance and the Northern Premier leagues are the higher standard of football and the increased travelling. Gateshead has bought firm to Gateshead after being released by Newcastle. Financial problems that threatened Gateshead two years ago are being overcome; debts have been reduced by 50 per cent in the last 12 months and the hope is that at a price within 12 months.

A period of stability would be more than welcome, for football in Gateshead has led a precarious existence in recent years. The former Football League club, voted out of the fourth division 23 years ago, folded in 1973 and Gateshead United, formed a year later, closed in 1977, to be succeeded by a fortnight.

• Tommy Docherty has parted company as manager with the Australian national league club, Sydney Olympic, after becoming the target of abuse and harassment from supporters disgruntled by the record of the team.

Docherty expects to return to England after this month.

The situation came to a head recently when supporters spat on Docherty and threw rubbish at him. • Jimmy Naylor, the former Oldham Athlete and Huddersfield Town wing half, has died at the age of 82.

• Halifax Town made a profit of £20,000 in the year ended March 31, compared with a loss of nearly £38,000 the previous year.

£155,000 for Fillery

The Football League appeals tribunal yesterday decided that Queen's Park Rangers must pay Chelsea £15,000 for the transfer of the midfield player Mike Fillery. Chelsea had asked for £200,000. The Tribunal also set a fee of £25,000 for the transfer of the forward Steve Lowndes, a Welsh international, from Newport County to Millwall.

Chelsea yesterday completed the transfer of Derek Johnson, from the former Football League club, the former Scotland player has been training with the London club for a fortnight.

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RACING

Carson nears title with treble

By Michael Seely

Willie Carson took a step nearer his fifth jockeys' championship with a magnificent treble at York yesterday. The dynamic Scotsman landed a double for Dick Hern by winning the Avondale New Zealand Stakes on Seville Sirene and the Fernedge Garrowby Stakes on Bedtime. Carson was also seen at his strongest and most effective when capturing the Sanction on Great Western.

Amazingly, Great Western's success gave his owner-breeder, Sandy Struthers, his first victory at York. Among the many good horses owned by the Glasgow shipping magnate have been Mount Athos, Bonnie Isle and the 1973 Eclipse Stakes winner, Scottish Rifle. Mount Athos finished third to Sir Ivor in the 1968 Derby and Bonnie Isle was runner up to Scimitar in the One-Two.

Ruddy Duck, Great Western's dam, has been a marvellous servant and money spinner for Struthers. Bonnie Isle is only one of the many winners she has produced. She was originally bought to be mated with her owner's 1970 Ayr Gold Cup winner, John Splendid. She is now in foal to Hitite glory, Struthers said. Struthers combines the post of

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**BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS
AND IN MEMORIAM**

(Information 3 days before issue)

Announcements authenticated by the name and permanent address of the sender, may be sent to:

THE TIMES
10 Queen Anne Street
London W1M 8BD
WC1X 8ZB

or telephoned (by telephone subscribers only) to: 01-531 3311 or 01-527 3233.

Announcements received by telephone between 9.00hrs and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, on Saturday between 9.00hrs and 12.00pm, and on Sunday between 12.00pm and 4.00pm, may be sent by telephone, phone no. 01-531 3311.

**PORTHOLLOW MARRIAGES,
WEDDINGS, ETC.** etc. on County and
Country pages 2 & 3. See 01-531 3311
and 7711.

Court and Social Page announcements can not be accepted by telephone.

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BIRTHS

SAINTON - On Aug 27, in London, to
Anthony and Linda, a son, **James**.

GARNIER, On August 29, at Leeds
Matthew, son of Michael and
Margaret - and a son, **David**.

BEASLEY, On August 29, in Queen
Charlotte's Hospital to Helen, a son,
London - and a son, **Michael**.

BROWNE - On 1st September at Heath
Row, St Albans, Herts, a son, **Paul** and
Caron, a son, **George**.

CLIFFE-ROBERTS - On September
1st, in London, to Andrew and
Winchester, to Sarah and Peter, a
daughter, **Elizabeth**.

COUTTS - On 22nd August to Anne
'Sutherland' and has a daughter
Amelia.

CRAWFORD - On 31st August, at
Upton House, Ascot, Berks, a son, **Matthew**
to David and Alison, a son, **James**.

DE WILDE - Earlier than expected at
Harrow, Middlesex, a son, **Matthew**,
to Patricia and Robert, a son, **Peter** and
Caron, a son, **George**.

DUNN - On August 30 to Edward, a
son, **Matthew** and Peter - a son.

ELLIOTT - On Aug 30, 1983, Andrew
and Sarah Louise, a daughter, **Freya**.

FARNSWORTH - On Aug 31, in Aylesbury,
to Amanda Gabe de Winter and John
de Winter, a daughter, **Verity Elizabeth**, a
son, **Thomas**.

FERNHAM - On Aug 31, in Karen
and Alan, a son, **Alfred**, a daughter,
(Caren Elizabeth).

SHARON - On 27th August in London,
to David and Alison, a son, **Matthew** and
a son, **James**.

HUGHES - On 31st August, in Bridgwater,
to Michael and Elizabeth, a son, **Matthew**,
a son, **James**.

JENKINS - On Aug 30, to Jennifer and
David, a son, **Matthew** and a daughter,
Elizabeth.

KALLES - To Debra Green (Mannion) and
Stephen Mannion, a son, **Matthew** and
a daughter, **Christina**.

KING - On Aug 30, to Helen, wife of
David and Helen, a son, **Matthew**,
a son, **James**.

HUGHES - On 31st August, in Bridgwater,
to Michael and Elizabeth, a son, **Matthew**,
a son, **James**.

KOPP - On 30th August, to Elizabeth
and Christopher, a son, **Matthew**,
a son, **James**.

MICHAELSON - On Aug 31, in London,
to Bridget (nee O'Farrell) wife of
Matthew, a son, **Matthew**, a son, **James**,
and Louis and Harriet.

SAUNDERS - On 28th August, 1983,
Mark and Linda, a son, **Matthew**,
to Glyn and Linda, a son, **Matthew**.

TAYLOR - On August 28th, to Valerie
and Michael, a son, **Matthew**, a son,
Christopher, a son, **James**.

THOMAS - On Aug 31, in London,
to Thomas Hospital, a son, **Matthew**,
a son, **James**.

VANHOFFEN - On 31st August at Queen
Elisabeth Hospital, Brussels, a son,
John, and a son, **Matthew**.

VARRELLA - On Aug 31, at St
Thomas' Hospital, a son, **Matthew**,
and Jennifer, a son, **James**.

WOOD - On 28th August at Hillside
Hospital, London, to Mark and
Mary, a son, **Matthew**, a brother for
Matthew.

BIRTHDAYS

SCHMIDT - On Aug 31, Happy birthday
to you all in the Imperial family.

SILVER WEDDINGS

MARSH - 100TH - On Aug 29, 1983,
to 100 years of Constantine and
Sophia, wife of Constantine.

SCOTT - On Aug 31, to Cyril and
Wendy, William Charles to Phyllis.

WEINSTEIN - On Aug 31, to
Josephine and Ned, and
Cecilia and Ned, a son, **Matthew**.

WOOD - On 28th August at Hillside
Hospital, London, to Mark and
Mary, a son, **Matthew**, a brother for
Matthew.

DEATHS

PRIEST - On August 26th, in an
Euston hospital, Charles Henry,
in his 83rd year, dearly loved
husband of Helen, nee Doherty,
of Euston. Services held at St
Matthew's Church, Euston, on
Friday September 8 at 12.00 noon at
the church. Friends welcome.

PROCTOR - On August 30, peacefully
at home, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Proctor,
loved and loving husband and father
of three, died on Friday, August 26th,
aged 81. Services will be held at
St. Paul's Church, Croydon, on
Tuesday, September 5th, at 1.30pm.

RACHHAM - Geoffrey Hastings, late
of Aldershot, died on Friday, August
26th, aged 80. Services will be held
at St. Paul's Church, Croydon, on
Tuesday, September 5th, at 1.30pm.

RICHARDSON - Mrs. Muriel
Richardson, widow of the late
John Richardson, died on Friday,
August 26th, aged 80. Services will be
held at St. Paul's Church, Croydon, on
Tuesday, September 5th, at 1.30pm.

WATSON - On 26th August, 1983,
peacefully at Bromfeld Hospital,
Mrs. Muriel Watson, of Caversham,
Lancaster, died on Friday, August 26th,
aged 80. Services will be held at
The Little Dorset Church, Caversham,
on Tuesday, September 5th, at 1.30pm.

WORTHING - Court and Social Page
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PERSONAL COLUMNS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

**LAST MINUTE HOLIDAY
BARGAINS**

CHECK-IN 2/9/83
Greece 3/1/83
Algarve 3/2/83
Corfu 3/3/83
Crete 3/4/83
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

100 Celentano AM: A useful news service, including items about sport, weather and traffic conditions. Any set can receive it.

120 Breakfast Times with Debbie Rio and Frank Bough, items include news bulletins at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, and 9.00. Consumer news at 8.30; Sport at 6.45, 7.45 and 8.30; *Cars Tarrant* in *Anytime 6.45*; and at intervals during the morning: *Today's papers*, at 7.00; Pop video at 7.30; Competition at 8.25 (and, earlier, at 7.20); Tonight's TV at 8.45; *Fest with Diana Dors*, at 8.45; *Fest on the Road* – in York – at 9.00.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain with Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. Includes news at 6.00, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, and 9.00. Consumer news at 8.30; Sport at 6.45, 7.45 and 8.30; *Cars Tarrant* in *Anytime 6.45*; and at intervals during the morning: *Today's papers*, at 7.00; Pop video at 7.30; Competition at 8.25 (and, earlier, at 7.20); Tonight's TV at 8.45; *Fest with Diana Dors*, at 8.45; *Fest on the Road* – in York – at 9.00.

ITV LONDONKenneth Williams, the subject of *Comic Roots* (BBC 1, 8.30pm)

● To discover in *COMIC ROOTS* (BBC 1, 8.30pm) first Kenneth Williams a comedian is cockney comes as a bit of a shock. It is rather like being told that William Hamilton MP has an autographed picture of a member of the Royal Family over his bed. Mr Williams, who assumes and discards funny voices as regularly as most other men change their socks, is never better than when he is giving the impression that he was working-class St Pancras, and the way he acts it tonight, his early story was almost Dickensian in its unsophisticated humbleness and the rich comicality of the characters who surrounded him. To drive the point home, he spends much time tonight singing cockney

CHOICE

songs in a St Pancras pub, a role, it must be said, he tackles with more enthusiasm than conviction. Our final view of him is on the empty stage of a theatre where he looks much more at home, and where we get a rare insight into the essentially serious man he is. It is here that he quotes Shelley's aphorism: "We are a portion of everything we ever loved." A good job for us as that he did not love his work as an apprentice draughtsman, though a straight-faced colleague says that he thinks it a pity that Mr Williams did not carry on with it.

● Two Sims by two masters tonight, *Rene Clair* and Luis Buñuel. The first, *IT HAPPENED* (Channel 4, 9.00) is a

comic fantasy which suddenly takes a serious turn. The other, *VIRIDIANA* (BBC 2, 9.25pm) is the savage onslaught on the Church that gave the Spanish authorities of the Franco era such a nasty turn that they promptly banned it. Clair, self-exiled in the United States when he made *It Happened* tomorrow, considered it to be his best Hollywood film. Thirty-eight years later, it is a toss-up between it and *I Married a Witch*, which Channel 4 screened last Friday night. Certainly, it is a newspaper story that will turn many a reporter green with envy. As for *Viridiana*, it was a shocker all right, back in 1961. Our skins have thickened since then, but I suspect there will still be some Roman Catholics principally, who will still consider it to be in exceptionally bad taste.

TONIGHT'S PROM

7.30 Mussorgsky: *A Night on the Bare Mountain*. Prokofiev: *Violin Concerto No. 1*; Schubert: *Paraphrase*. BBC SO, conducted by David Atherton. With Philip Langridge (tenor), Claude Mathieu (speaker), BBC Singers and Time School Boys' Choir.

10.30 *Ulster Orchestra*: Schubert, *My Son (Farewell)*, and *Schubert's Jonathan* (Symphony in C, D.612).

11.20 *Vivaldi Sonatas*: Beethoven (in G, Op. 30 no. 3, *Delius* (no. 2), Prokofiev (for solo violin, Op. 115) *Delius* (Lullaby for a modern baby), Ralph Holmes (violin) and Geoffrey Parsons (piano). Conducted by the Director of the National Centre for Orchestral Studies: Dvorak (Symphonic Variations), Blox (Garden of Genji).

1.00 Six Continents: A selection of foreign radio broadcasts (7).

1.15 Letter from America by Alastair Cooke.

2.00 Kaleidoscope from the Edinburgh International Festival.

2.50 *Music Masters*.

3.00 The World at Night: News.

3.20 Whizzbangs: *Whizzbangs with the National Rescue Company*.

3.30 *A Book at Bedtime*: *On the Eve* by Iris Turpenny (rest of ten part series), read by Helen Bloom.

3.45 *Music Masters*.

3.50 *The Seven Deadly Virtues*.

3.55 *The Schumann Project*: played by the Royal Philharmonic.

4.00 Brahms: *Albanian Cantata* in G major, Op. 111, with Patrick

Choir of King's College, Cambridge.

4.45 *Mainly for Pleasure* Works by Poulenc, Debussy, Schubert and others.

5.00 Music for Guitar: medley by Michael Lorimer. Works by Murcia, Corbetta, de Visea, Roncalli, and Coqueray.

5.05 *Music Masters*.

5.15 *Whizzbangs* as above except: 2.30 *Music Masters*, 3.00 *Twenty Four Hours*, 3.30 *Simon's Magist*.

5.20 *Music Masters*.

5.25 *Music Masters*.

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